

# 2010 Big Game Guide

- Antelope • Bighorn Sheep
- Deer • Elk



*Wesley O'Brien from Lexington, Texas with a Richardson County buck*



View all guides and buy your permits online at [OutdoorNebraska.org](http://OutdoorNebraska.org)

WELCOME BIG GAME HUNTERS:

You may not know it, but big game hunting in Nebraska is the best it has ever been. We are enjoying record populations of deer, elk and turkey. Age of bucks has never been better and permits in most units do not sell out until at least September. **New for 2010 are \$5 youth deer, antelope and turkey permits for residents and nonresidents under age 16. Refer to this guide for rules, regulations and season dates.** The easiest way to purchase a permit is to go online. You also may buy a permit with a mail-in application form. To visit us or buy a permit, go to: **OutdoorNebraska.org**.

So we encourage you to enjoy what Nebraska’s outdoors has to offer, and we hope to see you out there.

Jim Douglas  
Wildlife Division Administrator

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COMMISSION PERMITTING OFFICES

These offices sell permits over the counter, including landowner permits.

Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium . . . . . (402) 332-3901

Alliance . . . . . (308) 763-2940

Bassett . . . . . (402) 684-2921

Chadron State Park . . . . . (308) 432-6167

Fort Robinson State Park . . . . . (308) 665-2900

Kearney . . . . . (308) 865-5310

Niobrara State Park . . . . . (402) 857-3373

Norfolk . . . . . (402) 370-3374

North Platte . . . . . (308) 535-8025

Omaha . . . . . (402) 595-2144

Lincoln . . . . . (402) 471-0641

Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area . . . . . (308) 436-3777

# HUNTING SEASONS

BIG GAME PERMIT REQUIRED	
SPECIES - SEASON	DATES
Antelope – Archery	* Aug. 20-Nov. 12, Nov. 22-Dec. 31
Antelope – Muzzleloader	Sept. 18-Oct. 3
Antelope – Firearm	Oct. 9-24
Antelope – Cherry Late (antlerless firearm)	Oct. 9-Nov. 12
Bighorn Sheep	Season closed in 2010
Deer – Archery	Sept. 15-Nov. 12, Nov. 22-Dec. 31
Deer – Mule Deer Conservation Area	Nov. 13-21 ( Buffalo WT, Frenchman WT, Platte WT, Republican WT) Sept. 15-Dec. 31 (Buffalo, Frenchman, Platte, Republican Mule Deer)
Deer – October Antlerless (any weapon)	Oct. 2-11
Deer – November Firearm	Nov. 13-21
Deer – Earn-a-Buck November Firearm	Nov. 13-23
Deer – Muzzleloader	Dec. 1-31
Deer – Season Choice (antlerless)	Sept. 15-Jan. 18, 2011 (archery) Oct. 2-11 (firearm in Oct. Antlerless area) Dec. 1-31 (muzzleloader) Nov. 13-21, Dec. 26-Jan. 18, 2011 (firearm)
Deer – Youth and landowner	Sept. 15-Dec. 31 (archery) Oct. 2-11 (firearm in Oct. Antlerless area) Nov. 13-21 (firearm) Dec. 1-31 (muzzleloader) Dec. 26-Jan. 18, 2011 (firearm antlerless in SCA areas) Jan. 1-18, 2011 (archery antlerless in SCA areas)
Deer – DeSoto Muzzleloader	Oct. 16-17, Oct. 30-31, Dec. 11-12, Jan. 8-9, 2011
Deer – Boyer Chute	Oct. 23-24, Nov. 20-21, Dec. 18-19
Elk – Bull (except Boyd Unit)	Sept. 25-Oct. 24
Elk – Antlerless (except Boyd Unit)	Sept. 25-Oct. 24, Dec. 1-21
Elk – Boyd Unit	Aug. 15-Nov. 12, Nov. 22-Dec. 31

\* closed during firearm antelope season in all areas open to firearm antelope hunting

## PERMIT FEES

RESIDENT PERMITS	FEES
Deer – Restricted Statewide Buck	\$73.50
Deer – Statewide Whitetail Buck	\$73.50
Deer – Firearm, Archery, Muzzleloader or Season Choice	\$30
Deer – Landowner	\$15.50
Deer – Youth	\$6
Deer – October Antlerless Only	\$11
Antelope – Firearm, Archery or Muzzleloader	\$35*
Antelope – Landowner Firearm, Archery or Muzzleloader	\$20.50*
Antelope – Youth (archery only)	\$11*
Elk – Either-sex or Antlerless	\$159**
Elk – Landowner	\$39.40**
Nebraska Habitat Stamp	\$20
NONRESIDENT PERMITS	FEES
Deer – Restricted Statewide Buck	\$521
Deer – Statewide Whitetail Buck	\$521
Deer – Firearm, Archery, Muzzleloader or Season Choice	\$209
Deer – Landowner	\$105
Deer – Youth	\$6
Deer – October Antlerless Only	\$55
Deer – Season Choice Antlerless Only	\$55
Antelope – Archery Only	\$155.50*
Antelope – Youth	\$11*
Elk – Landowner	\$458**
Nebraska Habitat Stamp	\$20

\*Includes a nonrefundable \$5 application fee.

\*\*Includes a nonrefundable \$8.50 application fee.

### ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This publication is only a guide to those regulations and laws. To read the state's regulations and laws, visit the following links:

#### Regulations:

<http://www.ngpc.state.ne.us/admin/regulations/regulations.asp>

#### Statutes:

<http://law.justia.com/nebraska/codes/s37index/s37index.html>

# BUYING AND APPLYING FOR PERMITS

## WHEN TO APPLY FOR PERMITS

All application/purchase periods begin on the first day at 1 p.m. Central Time.

All applications must be received by the Commission by 5 p.m. Central Time or online by 11:59 p.m. Central Time on the final day.

**April 19-May 7** — Open to **residents only** to apply for draw units (any elk permit, firearm and muzzleloader antelope permit, or DeSoto December Muzzleloader and Republican mule deer permits). One application allowed per person per species.

**June 14-Close of Season** — Open to residents and nonresidents to buy any remaining antelope or deer permits and open to residents to buy any remaining elk permits.

**Sept. 1 (tentative)-Close of Season** – Open to nonresident landowners to buy any remaining elk permits.

## WAYS TO APPLY FOR A PERMIT

There are three ways to apply:

- At **OutdoorNebraska.org** during the applicable periods.
- Mail a completed application form (one may be found in this guide) to the Commission's office at 2200 N. 33rd St., Lincoln, NE, 68503.
- In person at Commission permitting offices. (see page 2)

**NOTE:** Commission agents, such as Wal-Mart, cannot sell big game permits.

## HOW TO COMPLETE A PERMIT APPLICATION

- Select a permit type: resident or nonresident.
- Select a weapon type.
- Determine your preferred unit (if elk, also specify bull or antlerless). If a permit in a different unit is acceptable, list it as a second choice.
- Print legibly and include all information requested. Failure to provide correct information may cause your application to be rejected.

## HOW TO BUY A PERMIT

You must provide:

- A 2010 Big Game Application Form.
- Full name, birth date, address, and physical description.
- Last four (4) digits of Social Security number. (Non U.S. citizens are exempt.)
- Hunter or bow hunter education number, if required.
- Payment: Credit or debit cards (VISA and Mastercard only), checks, and money orders are accepted as payment. (Discover and American Express are not accepted.)
- E-mail address (Used to notify successful applicants of permit drawings.)

Under federal and/or state law, discrimination is prohibited on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, marital status, national origin, disability, or political affiliation. If you think you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility or want more information, contact the Affirmative Action Officer, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Lincoln, NE, 402-471-0641; the Equal Opportunity Commission, Lincoln, NE, 402-471-2024, TTY/TDD 402-471-4693; USFWS, Division of Bird Habitat and Conservation, Civil Rights Coordinator, 4401 N. Fairfax Dr, MBSP 4020, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

# *New for 2010* **Nebraska Super Tag Lottery**

## **Super tag includes:**

- One Elk
- One Antelope
- One Deer
- Two Turkey  
(Spring or Fall seasons)

## **Application period:**

April 19 – July 2

## **Lottery Application Fee:**

\$25 (nonrefundable)

There's a reason this tag is "super" - this combination antelope, deer, elk and turkey permit would allow the lottery winner to hunt with any legal weapon in any open hunting area/unit during the general hunting season for each species.



The permit would be valid during the 2010 and 2011 seasons, meaning you have two years to fill the permits.

Lottery is open to Nebraska residents only. One entry per person.

Once-in-a-lifetime bull elk permit holders are eligible to participate in this lottery.

Drawing will be held during a July meeting of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

**Enter today at [www.OutdoorNebraska.org](http://www.OutdoorNebraska.org)**



**See You Out There**

# ANTELOPE

## 2010 FORECAST

Antelope permit quotas for firearm hunters have been increased, giving muzzleloader and rifle hunters more opportunity to draw a permit. Eighty-eight percent of bucks harvested in 2009 were age 2 or older. Archers had a record year, taking 156 antelope. The 2010 hunting season should be another great one.

## NEW IN 2010

- There is a 150-percent increase in the number of landowner permits.
- A late antlerless season is added in the Cherry unit.
- Permit quotas are increased in several units.
- A \$5 youth archery permit. (age 12-15)

## WHO MAY APPLY FOR DRAW PERMITS

Residents age 12 and older.

**NOTE:** Residents have preference, so all muzzleloader and firearm permits are purchased by residents. Archery permits are unlimited and available to residents and nonresidents. It is expected that some firearm permits will be available to nonresident landowners after June 14.

## LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF AN ANTELOPE

A buck is defined as an antelope with horns longer than its ears.

## PERMITS

**NOTE:** Hunters may obtain only one permit for antelope per year.

The following permits are available to residents and nonresidents:

- Statewide Archery (either-sex).

The following permits are available to residents only:

- Firearm permits for 10 specific management units (map on page 8)
- Prairie Muzzleloader
- North Sioux Muzzleloader

## LANDOWNER PERMITS

Permits issued in any unit may not exceed 50 percent of the permits authorized for that unit.

## PREFERENCE POINTS

- Any person who properly applies for and is denied a firearm or muzzleloader antelope permit in the first application period will receive one preference point for each unsuccessful year.
- Accumulated points shall be used to determine priority in the permit drawing.
- In buddy applications, priority will be given based on the lower number of points possessed by either applicant.
- Any person who is issued firearm or muzzleloader buck or either-sex permits shall lose all preference points.
- Any person who does not apply during a five-year period shall lose all preference points.
- Purchasing an archery or antlerless permit will not cause you to lose preference points.

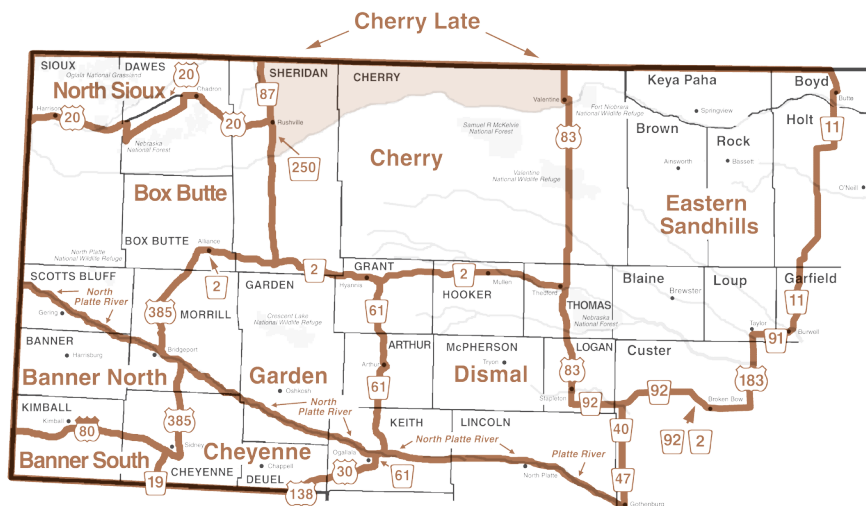
# ANTELOPE PERMIT INFORMATION

Unit	2010 Permits	2010 Percent of Either Sex	2009 Harvest	2009 Success	2009 Minimum Points Required	Bucks Harvested Age 2 or Older
Archery – Statewide <sup>1</sup>	UNL	100	156	22%	0	79%
Prairie MZ <sup>2,3</sup>	85	0	70	79%	2	88%
North Sioux MZ	28	100	26	87%	3	90%
Banner North <sup>3</sup>	75	0	65	72%	2	92%
Banner South <sup>3</sup>	35	0	34	94%	2	85%
Box Butte <sup>3</sup>	40	0	36	75%	2	88%
Cherry	90	100	73	81%	2	92%
Cherry Late	25	doe/fawn	—	—	—	—
Cheyenne <sup>3</sup>	20	0	19	79%	2	89%
Dismal	15	100	13	72%	2	92%
Eastern Sandhills <sup>3</sup>	20	0	19	79%	1	100%
Garden <sup>3</sup>	35	0	30	71%	2	100%
North Sioux	100	100	91	76%	3	86%

- 1 - The harvest is limited to one antelope with horns longer than its ears on the Bessey Ranger District of the Nebraska National Forest.
- 2 - The Bessey Ranger District of the Nebraska National Forest in Blaine and Thomas counties is closed to muzzleloader and firearm hunting.
- 3 - Buck-only – horns longer than its ears.

MZ - Muzzleloader UNL - Unlimited

## ANTELOPE FIREARM UNITS





# ANTELOPE MUZZLELOADER UNITS PRAIRIE AND NORTH SIOUX



## BIGHORN SHEEP

### 2010 FORECAST

The long-term outlook for bighorn sheep is good, with approximately 300 bighorns in two populations in the Pine Ridge and Wildcat Hills. Once native to western Nebraska, bighorn sheep were reintroduced in 1981. Unfortunately, recent disease losses to the original Fort Robinson herd requires that the season be closed until the number of mature rams increase at the newer release sites.

**NOTE:** Penalty for unlawful take or possession of bighorn sheep or parts thereof may exceed \$5,000.

### PERMITS

No permits are authorized for 2010.

### LOTTERY AND AUCTION

Proceeds from lottery entries and auctions have raised nearly \$700,000 for the Bighorn Sheep Program. These proceeds are a critical revenue source for the program.

#### Applications

Year	Total	Year	Total	Year	Total
1998	3,443	2002	1,838	2006	No Drawing
1999	1,996	2003	1,595	2007	No Drawing
2000	1,806	2004	1,585	2008	1,357
2001	886	2005	1,445	2009	1,547

#### Auction Results

1998 - \$87,500 Safari Club International  
 2000 - \$85,000 Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS)  
 2002 - \$55,000 Safari Club International  
 2005 - \$83,000 Grand Slam/Ovis  
 2009 - \$80,000 FNAWS

#### Lottery Revenue

\$325,000 total proceeds.

## 2010 FORECAST

Nebraska's elk herds are growing, and the population now exceeds 2,000. We have increased permits to give hunters more opportunities to take a cow or trophy bull. In 2009, hunter success on bull permits was 80 percent. All but four harvested bulls had at least six points on one antler. Average beam length of these bulls was 49 inches. New records for bull and cow harvest should be set in 2010.

## NEW IN 2010

- Six bull permits are added in four units.
- Twenty-seven antlerless-only permits are added in five units.
- Landowner eligibility and application rules are changed.
- General hunters are restricted to no more than one cow permit every five years.
- Landowners are restricted to no more than one bull permit every three years.
- Landowners are restricted to no more than one cow permit every year.
- Unsuccessful landowner bull applicants receive preference points.

## WHO MAY APPLY FOR PERMITS

Persons age 12 and older are eligible. Residents will purchase all bull and cow tags before the nonresident application period opens, but some landowner cow tags will be available to nonresident landowners. Bull permit for nonlandowners are once-in-a lifetime

## LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF AN ELK

**Bull** – A male elk with antlers six inches or more in length.

**Antlerless** – No antlers or antlers no more than six inches in length.

## LANDOWNER ELK PERMITS

### Landowner Elk Application Process

- Fill out a Landowner Elk Permit application.
  - How to obtain an application:
    - Receive one in the mail from the Game and Parks
    - Pick up at a Commission district offices
    - Download at **OutdoorNebraska.org**
  - Mail the application and a check or credit card for the amount of the permit and application fee to your to area district office by May 7.
  - District office staff will validate your application and return for corrections, if needed.
- Permit drawing conducted between May 14 and June 14.

### Residents and nonresidents:

- Persons receiving a bull permit in 2008 or 2009 may not apply for a bull permit in 2010.
- Residents have preference over nonresidents.
- Eligible family members are not required to live in the same household.
- No more than one elk permit per year or more than one bull permit every three years.
- A person may get a cow permit every year without loss of bull preference points.
- Hunting is restricted to the Elk Management Unit in which the property is located.
- Eligible property must be located within the Elk Management Zone.
- Preference points will be awarded to unsuccessful landowner bull applicants.

## ELK BULL PERMITS

Unit Name	2010 General Permits	2010 Landowner Permits	2009 Bulls Harvested	2009 General Permit Draw Odds	2009 Landowner Draw Odds	2009 Permits Sold
Ash Creek	8	4	7	35:1	3:1	9
Bordeaux	16	8	16	34:1	3:1	21
Box Elder	2	1	2	115:1	20:1	3
Boyd	2	1	2	48:1	2:1	3
Hat Creek	18	9	21	39:1	3:1	21
Niobrara River	6	3	5	21:1	4:1	6
North Platte River	12	6	12	40:1	3:1	18
Lottery and Auction	2	—	1	—	—	1

## ELK ANTLERLESS-ONLY PERMITS

Unit Name	2010 General Permits	2010 Landowner Permits	2009 Cow/Calf Harvest	2009 Permit Draw Odds	2009 Permits Sold
Ash Creek	14	7	10	3:1	15
Bordeaux	34	17	26	5:1	37
Box Elder	10	5	5	14:1	9
Boyd	4	2	3	12:1	5
Hat Creek	34	17	22	5:1	40
Niobrara River	6	3	0	—	0
North Platte River	14	7	6	10:1	18

**NOTE:** Nebraska's elk populations move freely between private and public land, but the majority of elk are sighted on private property. Some landowners may charge an access fee for permission to hunt on their property.

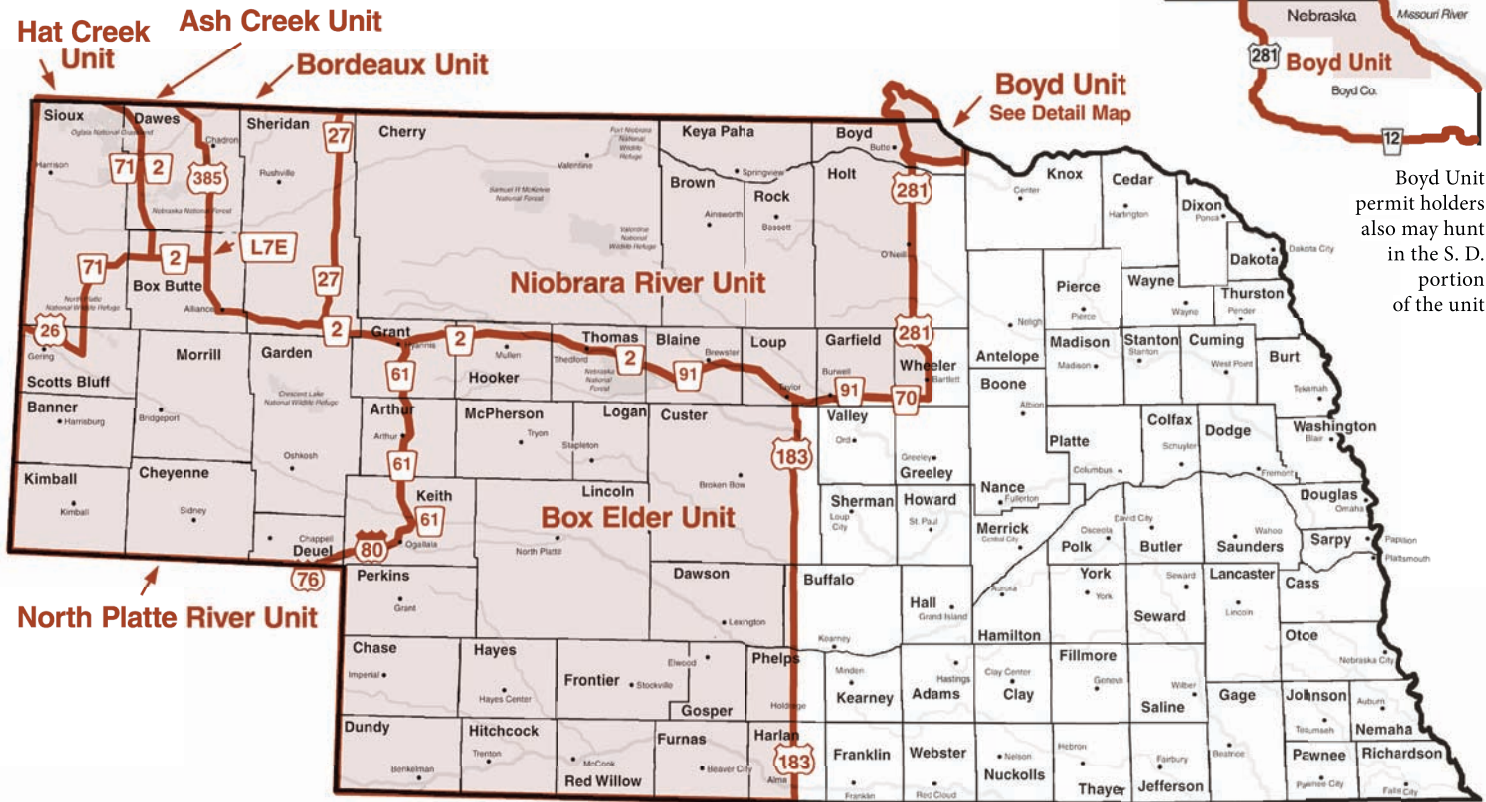
### Resident Landowner:

- Own a minimum of 320 acres or lease/own 640 acres or more of land dedicated to agricultural production.
- Spouse or child of owner or leaseholder, or a sibling sharing ownership is eligible.
- Only one application will be accepted per 320 acres (owned) or 640 (leased).

### Nonresident Landowner:

- Own a minimum of 1,280 acres of land dedicated to agricultural production.
- Only one application will be accepted per 1,280 acres owned.
- Spouse or child of owner or a sibling sharing ownership is eligible.

## ELK MANAGEMENT UNITS



Boyd Unit  
permit holders  
also may hunt  
in the S. D.  
portion  
of the unit

## ELK MANAGEMENT ZONES

**Ash Creek Unit** – The following lands in Dawes County: Sec. 1, 12, 13, and 24 and those portions of Sec. 2, 11, 14, 23, 25, 26, and 36 that lie east of NE Hwy. 2, all in T30N R52W; that portion of Sec. 1 that lies east of NE Hwy. 2 in T29N R52W; Sec. 13 through 17, both inclusive, 20 through 29, both inclusive, 32 through 36, both inclusive, all in T31N R51W; Sec. 1 through 36, both inclusive, all in T30N R51W; Sec. 1 through 5, both inclusive, 8 through 12, both inclusive, and those portions of Sec. 6 and 7 that lie east of NE Hwy. 2, all in T29N R51W; Sec. 11 through 36, both inclusive, all in T31N R50W; Sec. 1 through 11, both inclusive, 14 through 22, both inclusive, 27 through 34, both inclusive, all in T30N R50W; Sec. 3, through 7 all in T29N R50W; Sec. 9 through 16, both inclusive, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 31 through 35, both inclusive, and those portions of Sec. 24, 25 and 36 that lie west of U.S. Hwy. 385, all in T32N R49W; Sec. 1 through 24, both inclusive, 28 through 33, both inclusive, and those portions of Sec. 26 and 27 that lie north of Table Road, all in T31N R49W; Sec. 18, 19, and 20 and portions of Sec. 6, 7, 8, and 17 that lie west of U.S. Hwy. 385, all in T31N R48W; Sec. 4, 5 and 6, all in T30N R49W; except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

**Bordeaux Unit** – The following lands in Dawes and Sheridan counties: Sec. 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, and 12, N1/2 Sec. 13, W1/2 Sec. 16, all in T31N R48W; Sec. 5, 6, and 7, S1/2 Sec. 18, all in T31N R47W; Sec. 1, 2, 3, 9 through 14, both inclusive, 22 through 26, both inclusive, and 36, all in T32N R48W; Sec. 35 and 36, all in T33N R48W; Sec. 1 through 32, both inclusive, all in T32N R47W; Sec. 21 through 36, both inclusive, all in T33N R47W; Sec. 3, through 9, both inclusive, and 17 through 19, both inclusive, all in T32N R46W; Sec. 1, 2, 10 through 35, both inclusive, all in T33N R46W; Sec. 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 23 through 26, both inclusive, and 35 and 36, all in T34N R46W; Sec. 4 through 9, both inclusive, 17 through 20, both inclusive, 27 through 33, both inclusive, all in T33N R45W; Sec. 2, 7 through 10, both inclusive, N1/2 of Sec. 11, S1/2 of Sec. 14, 15 through 22, both inclusive, E1/2 of Sec. 23 28 through 33, both inclusive, all in T34N R45W; Sec. 26, N1/2 of Sec. 27, 28 through 33, 35, both inclusive, all in T35N R46W; E1/2 of Sec. 27, W1/2 of Sec. 32, E1/2 of Sec. 34, Sec. 25, 26 and 35 all in T35N, R44W. S1/2 of Sec. 8 and S1/2 of Sec. 9 and N1/2 of 15 and W1/2 of 29 and W1/2 of 32 and E1/2 of 33 and Sec. 1, 2, 3, and 4, 10 through 14, 16, 17, 19 through 30, both inclusive, Sec. 34 through 36, all in T34N R44W. SW1/4 of 9 and N1/2 of 17 and NE 1/4 of 18, W1/2 of 19, NE 1/4 of 30, Sec. 1, 2, and 3, Sec. 11, 12, 14, 16 and 22, all in T33N R44W. Sec. 29 through 33, all in T35N R43W. Sec. 4 through 8, Sec. 18 and 30, all in T34N R43W. Sec. 25 and 36 in T35N R47W; except that any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

**Box Elder Unit** – The following lands in Lincoln County: Sec. 4, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, and 18 all in T13N, R34W, Sec. 9 through 16, 21 through 29, 32 through 36, all in T12N R29W; Sec. 17 through 21, 26 through 36, all in T12N R28W; Sec. 1 through 5, 8 through 36, all in T11N R29W; Sec. 1 through 36, all in T11N R28W; Sec. 1 through 5, 9 through 16, 21 through 28, 33 through 36, all in T10N R29W; Sec. 1 through 36, all in T10N R28W; Sec. 1 through 4, both inclusive, 9 through 15, both inclusive, 22 through 27, both inclusive, and 34 through 36, both inclusive, all in T9N R29W; Sec. 3 through 10, both inclusive, 15 through 22, both inclusive, and 27 through 34, both inclusive, all in T9N R28W.

**Boyd Unit** – That part of Boyd County east of U.S. Hwy. 281 including the following lands: Sec. 22 through 27, both inclusive, 35 and 36, all in T35N R12W; Sec. 19 through 36, both inclusive, all in T35N R11W; Sec. 1, 2, 12 and 13, all in T34N R11W; Sec. 19, 20, 21, 28 through 34, both inclusive, all in T35N R10W; Sec. 3 through 11, both inclusive, 14 through 18, both inclusive, all in T34N R10W.

**Hat Creek Unit** – The following lands in Sioux County: Sec. 1, 2, 10-12, 15, E1/2 Sec. 3 and S1/2 Sec. 14 and E1/2 Sec. 20 and W1/2 Sec. 24 and E1/2 Sec. 28 and Sec. 21, 22, and 23, and 34, all in T30N R53W; Sec. 6, 7, and that portion of 18, E1/2 of Sec. 19, E1/2 of Sec. 30, 20, 28, and 29 that lies north of U.S. Hwy 20, all in T31N R53W; Sec. 1, 2, W1/2 of Sec. 3, N1/2 Sec. 5, 4, and 9 all in T30N R54W; Sec. 1, W1/2 of Sec. 4, E1/2 of Sec. 5, W1/2 of Sec. 9, 12, 18, 32-35, and that portion of 13 that lies north of U.S. Hwy 20, all in T31N R54W; Sec. SW1/4 of Sec. 1, N1/2 of Sec. 12, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, and 31, all in T32N R53W; Sec. 1 through 36, both inclusive, all in T32N R54W; Sec. 13, 24, 25, and 36, all in T33N R54W; Sec. 1, 2, 3 and Sec. 7 through 36, both inclusive, all in T32N R55W; Sec. 5 through 18, both inclusive, and Sec. 23, 24, 25, and 36, all in T32N R56W; Sec. 19, in T33N R56W; Sec. 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 25, 26, 35 and 36, in T33N R57W; and Sec. 1, 2, SE1/4 of Sec. 9, SW1/4 of Sec. 10, 11 and 12, in T32N R57W; Sec. 31 and 32 in T30N R52W, except that any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

**North Platte River** – The following lands in Scotts Bluff and Banner counties: Sec. 33, 34, and 35, all in T21N R57W; Sec. 4, 5, 8, and 9, all in T20N R57W; Sec. 14, W1/2 of Sec. 15, 17, 20, 29, and the W1/2, and NE1/4 of Sec. 21, and N1/2 of Sec. 22, all in T20N R56W; N1/2, SW1/4, W1/2 of SE1/4, all in Sec. 19, and Sec. 24, all in T20N R56W; the following lands in Banner and Morrill counties: Sec. 13 through 17, both inclusive, 20 through 29, both inclusive, 32 through 36, both inclusive, all in T18N R53W; Sec. 1 through 5, both inclusive, 8 through 17, both inclusive, all in T17N R53W; Sec. 6 all in T17N, R53W; Sec. 13 through 36, both inclusive, T18N R52W; Sec. 30 and 31, all in T18N, R47W; Sec. 1 through 12, both inclusive, 14 through 18, both inclusive, all in T17N R52W; South half of Sec. 9, 15 through 21, both inclusive, 28 through 33, both inclusive, all in T18N R51W; Sec. 4 through 10, both inclusive, all in T17N R51W; Sec. 1, 11, 12, N1/2 13, N1/2 14 all in T17N, R48W; the following lands in Garden County: Sec. 23, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36, all in T16N R43W; Sec. 1 in T15N R43W; Sec. 31 in T16N R42W; Sec. 5, 6, N1/2 of 7, and 8, all in T15N R42W; except that any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

**Niobrara River** – The following lands in Cherry and Keya Paha County: Sec. 23 through 26, 35 and 36 all in T34N R32W; Sec. 1, 2, 11 through 14, 23 through 26, 32 through 36, all in T33N R32W; Sec. 17 through 21, 25 through 36 all in T33N R31W; Sec. 29 through 32 all in T33N R30W; those portions of Sec. 6 that lie north of the Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest all in T32N R30W; those portions of Sec. 1 through 6 that lie north of Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest all in T32N R31W; Sec. 9 through 16, 21 through 24 all in T34N R26W; Sec. 7, 18 and 19 all in T34N R25W; Sec. 28, 29, 32 and 33 all in T33N R18W; Sec. 5 through 8 all in T32N R18W; Sec. 1 through 18, 21 and 22 all in T32N R19W; except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

# TAKE YOUR FAMILY HUNTING IN NEBRASKA!



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**[www.OutdoorNebraska.org/5bucks/](http://www.OutdoorNebraska.org/5bucks/)**

**NEBRASKA**  
— GAME  PARKS —

**See You Out There**



# DEER

## 2010 FORECAST

The 2010 deer season will be defined as a year of record antlerless whitetail harvest. Goals in eastern deer units (Blue Northwest, Blue Southeast, Wahoo, Elkhorn, and Missouri) call for a 25-percent herd reduction over the next three years. An unlimited number of \$10 October antlerless permits are authorized, and 250,000 permits and bonus tags that allow the harvest of antlerless whitetail are available. A 20-year trend of increasingly older bucks is expected to continue in 2010. In 2009, 30 percent of bucks were age 3 or older. In some units, 90 percent of harvested bucks were age 2 or older. For those who are trophy hunters and for those who are meat hunters, the possibilities have never been better.

## NEW IN 2010

- October Antlerless season is 10 days, includes wider area and a \$10 permit
- Earn-a-Buck requires doe checked in before buck in Elkhorn and Wahoo units
- Mule Deer Conservation Area includes Buffalo, Frenchman, Platte, Republican units
- Restricted Statewide Buck permit not valid for mule deer in Mule Deer Conservation Area
- Whitetail Statewide Buck permit valid in three seasons, includes antlerless-only whitetail bonus tag
- Bonus antlerless whitetail tags added to seven firearm units
- Five new Season Choice Area units added
- Nine days added to January firearm antlerless season
- Three new antlerless seasons at Boyer Chute and DeSoto Bend national wildlife refuges
- Archery equipment valid on firearm permits
- Minimum draw weight for archery removed
- Muzzleloading pistols legal
- Archers, muzzleloaders and late season hunters **MUST** use Telecheck
- Bonus antlerless tags may not be used at Bessey Ranger District of Nebraska National Forest at Halsey or Valentine and Fort Niobrara national wildlife refuges
- A \$5 youth permit for residents and nonresidents

## WHO MAY APPLY FOR PERMITS

Residents and nonresidents age 10 and older.

## LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF DEER

**Buck** – A deer having at least one antler six inches or more in length.

**Antlerless** – A deer with no antlers or antlers no more than six inches in length.

## DEER PERMITS

The following permits are available to residents and nonresidents:

**October Antlerless:** Valid Oct. 2-11 for two antlerless whitetail. May be used in 60 percent of state. (see page 32)

**November Firearm:** Limits hunting to the specific management unit for which they are issued. Units may have restrictions regarding sex or species of deer. (see page 33)

**Restricted Statewide Buck:** Valid in nine-day November firearm season, but no mule deer harvest allowed in Mule Deer Conservation Area (MDCA).



**Whitetail Statewide Buck:** Valid statewide Sept. 15-Dec. 31 for archery, muzzleloader and November firearm season with weapons legal for each season for one whitetail buck. The permit includes a bonus antlerless whitetail tag.

**Statewide Archery:** Valid statewide for any deer AND one antlerless whitetail, except not valid in MDCA for a mule deer.

**Statewide Muzzleloader:** Valid statewide for any deer AND one antlerless whitetail, except not valid in MDCA for a mule deer.

### STATEWIDE YOUTH, LANDOWNER, SEASON CHOICE AREAS (SCA)

Persons who obtain these permits may hunt with:

- Firearm: Nov. 13-21
- \*Archery: Sept. 15 – Jan. 18 (Jan. 1-18 is antlerless only)
- \*Muzzleloader: Dec. 1-Jan. 18 (Jan. 1-18 is antlerless only)
- \*Late Firearm: Dec. 26 – Jan. 18 (antlerless only)

**\*NOTE:** Dec. 26-Jan. 18, 2011 is open only in SCA units.

### MULE DEER CONSERVATION AREA (MDCA)

The area described as the Buffalo, Frenchman, Platte, and Republican units.

Special regulations are in place for permits valid in the MDCA. (see page 33)

- Archery, Muzzleloader and Statewide Buck permits not valid for mule deer.
- Season Dates: Depends on the permit type. (see page 27)
- Weapons: Any legal weapon, provided the season is open for that weapon type
- Permits: Buffalo, Frenchman, Platte, Republican Mule Deer, Buffalo WT, Frenchman WT, Platte WT, Republican WT.

### SEASON CHOICE AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND BAG LIMITS

**Area 1:** Within 3 miles of the landward banks of the Platte River between Neb. Hwy. 47 and Neb. Hwy. 14. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 2:** All land in the Republican Unit south of Neb. Hwy. 4. Not valid on Harlan County Reservoir. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 3:** Same as Calamus East. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 4:** Same as Calamus West. Valentine National Wildlife Refuge and Bessey Ranger District of the Nebraska National Forest are closed. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 5:** Same as Loup East. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 6:** Same as Loup West. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

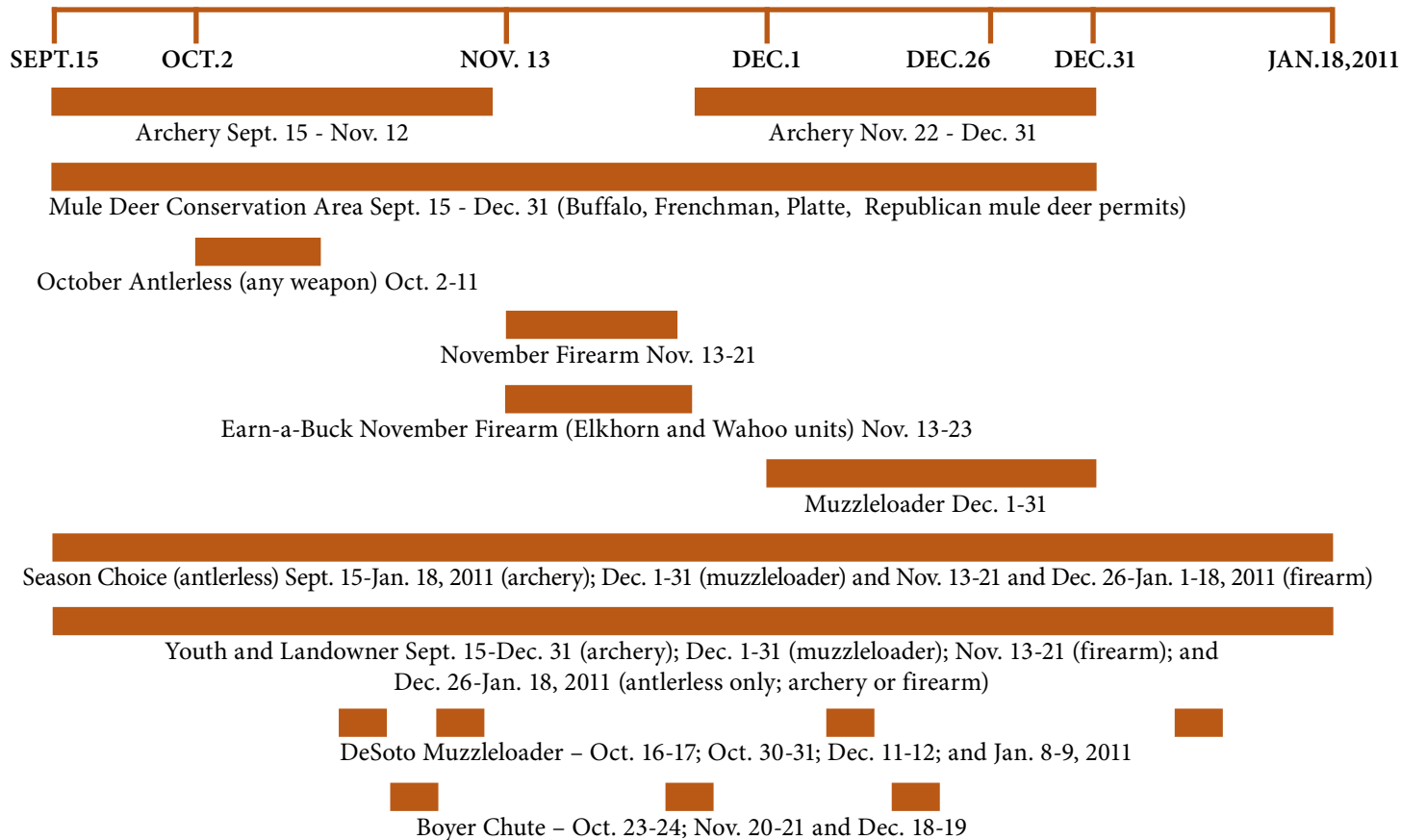
**Area 8:** Same as Frenchman Unit. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 8 West:** That portion of the Frenchman unit north of U.S. Hwy. 34 and west of U.S. Hwy. 83. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

**Area 9:** Same as Platte Unit. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 9 North:** That portion of the Platte unit north of the Platte River and North Platte River. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

## DEER HUNTING SEASONS



**Area 9 River:** That portion of the Platte unit within 3 miles of the landward banks of the Platte River, South Platte River and North Platte River. No permits are authorized. This unit is included in the October Antlerless season.

**Area 11:** Same as the Keya Paha unit. Not valid for Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge. Bag Limit: One antlerless white-tailed deer and one antlerless deer.

**Area 12:** Same as Missouri Unit. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 13:** All land in the Republican Unit north of Neb. Hwy. 4. Bag Limit: One antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 17:** Same as Pine Ridge Unit. Fort Robinson State Park (SP) and Fort Robinson WMA, Soldier Creek Wilderness Area and Peterson WMA are closed to antlerless mule deer harvest in all seasons. Bag Limit: One antlerless mule deer and one antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 17 White River:** That portion of the Pine Ridge unit within 2 miles of the banks of the White River, between Neb. Hwy. 71 and the South Dakota border. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 18:** All land bordering the Missouri River north of U.S. Hwy. 30 and east of U.S. Hwy. 77. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

**Area 19:** The portion of the Elkhorn Unit located west of U.S. Hwy. 77, east of Neb. Hwy. 14 and north of Neb. Hwy. 91, and south of U.S. Hwy. 20 and east of U.S. Hwy. 81 and north of the Platte River. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

**Area 20:** All land within a line beginning on U.S. Hwy. 81 at the Nebraska-Kansas state line, north on U.S. Hwy. 81 to U.S. Hwy. 34, west on U.S. Hwy. 34 to Neb. Hwy. 14, then north on Neb. Hwy. 14 to the Platte River, continuing east, within 3 miles of the landward banks of the Platte River, to Neb. Hwy. 50, then south on Neb. Hwy. 50 to the Nebraska-Kansas state line. Bag Limit: Two antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 21:** All of Douglas and Sarpy counties, and all land bordering the Missouri River south of U.S. Hwy. 30 and east of Neb. Hwy. 50, and land within 3 miles of the banks of the Platte River beginning at the Missouri River confluence and extending west to Neb. Hwy. 14. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

**Area 22:** Same as Sandhills Unit. Valentine National Wildlife Refuge is closed. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

**Area 23:** Same as Plains Unit. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

**Area 24:** Same as Upper Platte Unit. Bag Limit: One antlerless deer.

**Area 24 River:** That portion of the Upper Platte and Plains units within 3 miles of the banks of the North Platte River. Bag Limit: One antlerless whitetail deer.

**Area 25:** Same as Buffalo Unit. Bag Limit: One antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Area 25 North:** That portion of the Buffalo unit that is north of U.S. Hwy 30 and west of Neb. Hwy. 21. Bag Limit: One antlerless deer.



## DEER PERMIT INFORMATION

Unit	2010 Permits	2010 % of Either Sex or Antlerless-quota	2009 Permits Sold	2009 Deer Harvested	2009 Success
Archery*	UNL	1ES <sup>3</sup> , 1AOWT	17,265	7,612	44%**
Muzzleloader* (MZ)	UNL	1ES <sup>3</sup> , 1AOWT	14,490	5,929	41%**
Youth Deer*	UNL	1ES, 1AOWT	7,230	5,472	76%**
October Antlerless	UNL	2AOWT	555	262	47%**
DeSoto Oct. Early MZ	140	2AO	140	71	51%**
DeSoto Oct. Late MZ	140	2AO	—	—	—
DeSoto Dec. MZ	100	1ES, 1AO	100	73	73%**
DeSoto Jan. MZ	160	2AO	—	—	—
Boyer Oct. MZ	70	2AO	60	39	65%**
Boyer Nov. MZ	70	2AO	60	31	52%**
Boyer Dec. MZ	70	2AO	—	—	—
Landowner	UNL	1ES, 1AO	12,215	7,313	60%**
SCA 1	2,000	2AOWT	1,216	821	68%**
SCA 2	2,000	2AOWT	1,744	1,393	80%**
SCA 3	400	2 AOWT	243	162	67%**
SCA 4	300	2AOWT	249	169	68%**
SCA 5	1,000	2AOWT	800	577	72%**
SCA 6	400	2AOWT	300	187	62%**
SCA 8	1,000	2AOWT	700	510	73%**
SCA 8 West	200	2AO	—	—	—
SCA 9	1,200	2AOWT	700	459	66%**
SCA 9 North	300	2AO	—	—	—
SCA 11	400	1AO, 1AOWT	346	215	62%**
SCA 12	1,500	2AOWT	1,500	987	66%**
SCA 13	400	1AOWT	250	95	38%
SCA 17	800	1AO, 1AOWT	700	630	90%**
SCA 17 White River	400	2AOWT	—	—	—
SCA 18	1,600	2AO	1,256	671	53%**
SCA 19	2,000	2AO	1,800	802	45%**
SCA 20	6,000	2AOWT	5,607	3,139	56%**
SCA 21	8,000	2AO	5,847	2,992	51%**
SCA 22	700	2AO	563	599	106%**
SCA 23	500	2AO	400	355	89%**
SCA 24	300	1AO	300	132	44%
SCA 24 River	300	1AO	—	—	—
SCA 25	400	1AOWT	400	114	29%
SCA 25 North	150	1AO	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>		—	<b>77,036</b>	<b>41,811</b>	<b>60%**</b>

# DEER PERMIT INFORMATION

Unit	2010 Permits	2010 Bag Limit or % of Either-Sex	2009 Permits Sold	2009 Sellout Date	2009 Success
Blue Northwest	2,700	1ES, 1AO	2,600	Aug. 18	78%**
Blue Southeast	3,900	1ES, 1AO	3,900	Sept. 8	65%**
Buffalo	1,700	1ES	2,000	Oct. 12	58%
Buffalo WT	1,750	1ES WT	1,495	Nov. 12	48%
Calamus East	1,300	1ES <sup>2</sup>	1,300	Nov. 13	58%
Calamus West	1,800	1ES, 1AOWT	1,800	Nov. 15	67%
Elkhorn	3,600	1ES, 1AO	3,600	Aug. 1	78%**
Frenchman	1,200	1ES, 1AOWT	1,600	Sept. 12	67%
Frenchman WT	2,500	1WT, 1AOWT	1,276	DSO	50%
Keya Paha	2,300	1ES <sup>2</sup> , 1AOWT	2,300	Nov. 20	67%
Loup East	2,400	1ES <sup>2</sup>	2,400	Oct. 28	57%
Loup West	1,700	1ES, 1AOWT	1,700	Nov. 12	69%
Missouri	3,200	1ES <sup>2</sup> , 1AOWT	3,200	Oct. 16	61%
Pine Ridge	3,000	1ES	3,000	Nov. 19	59%
Plains	1,500	1ES	1,500	Nov. 15	67%
Platte	1,200	1ES, 1AOWT	1,600	Nov. 6	66%
Platte WT	1,600	1WT, 1AOWT	907	DSO	48%
Republican MD	100	1MD Buck	500	May 8	60%
Republican WT	3,000	1WT, 1AOWT	2,495	Sept. 13	57%
Sandhills	2,400	1ES, 1AOWT	2,400	Nov. 16	73%
Upper Platte	1,200	1ES	1,200	Nov. 15	61%
Wahoo	4,500	1ES, 1AO	4,500	Oct. 13	77%**
Restricted Statewide Buck	UNL	BO <sup>3</sup>	7,629	—	45%
WT Statewide Buck	UNL	1BOWT, 1AOWT	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48,550</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>55,902</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>62%**</b>

## Deer Bag Limit Definitions

Antlerless - no antlers or both antlers less than six inches in length

WT = Whitetail

MD = Mule deer

1ES - One either sex (WT or MD)

1ES<sup>2</sup> - One antlerless WT or one buck (WT or MD)

1ES WT - Any whitetail

1AO - One antlerless (WT or MD)

1AOWT - One antlerless WT

BOWT - Buck only WT

BO<sup>3</sup> - Buck only - No mule deer allowed in MDCA

1ES<sup>3</sup> - No mule deer allowed in Mule Deer Conservation Area

\*Statewide Unit

\*\* Bonus tags elevate success

UNL - Unlimited

DSO - Did not sell out

## SPECIAL DEER SEASONS

### OCTOBER ANTLERLESS

**Dates:** Oct. 2-11

**Legal Weapons:** Archery, muzzleloader, centerfire rifle, and crossbow

**Hunting Area:** Within the boundaries of the following Season Choice Areas: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 River, 11, 12, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22. (see page 32)

**Permit Quota:** Unlimited permits available

**Bag Limit:** Two antlerless whitetails

**Permit Fee:** Residents, \$11; Nonresidents, \$55

**Hunter Orange:** Required for all firearm deer hunters within the areas listed for the October Antlerless season. Not required for archers.

**Others Who May Hunt:** Persons with Youth, Landowner and Season Choice Area permits who hunt within the boundaries of the October Antlerless unit may hunt with archery equipment or firearms during the October Antlerless season.

**Note About Processors:** Hunters who take their deer to a processor should check with a processor before they harvest a deer. Many processors are working with domestic livestock at this time and may not be available to process deer in early October. Carcasses should be cooled with ice and butchered as soon as possible.

### DESOTO MUZZLELOADER

A described portion of the DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge in Washington County near Blair. Contact Mindy Sheets at (712) 642-5405 for more information.

#### **DeSoto October Early:**

Oct. 16-17; 140 permits. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

#### **DeSoto October Late:**

Oct. 30-31; 140 permits. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

#### **DeSoto December:**

Dec. 11-12; 100 permits. Bag Limit: One either-sex deer and one antlerless deer.

#### **DeSoto January:**

Jan. 8-9, 2011; 160 permits. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

### BOYER CHUTE ANTLERLESS MUZZLELOADER

A described portion of the Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge in Washington county near Fort Calhoun. Only persons with a Boyer Chute permit are allowed on the area during the hunt. Contact Mike Ellis (402) 468-4313 for more information.

#### **Boyer Chute October:**

Oct. 23-24; 70 permits. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

#### **Boyer Chute November:**

Nov. 20-21; 70 permits. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

#### **Boyer Chute December:**

Dec. 18-19; 70 permits. Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

## GIFFORD WMA

**Dates:** Sept. 15 - Jan. 18 (Special access pass required)

**Hunting Area:** Gifford WMA in Sarpy County

**Permit Quota:** There are 200 access permits issued by drawing. Contact the Commission's Lincoln office at (402) 471-0641 or Omaha office at (402) 595-2144 to apply July 15 - Aug. 15.

**Who May Hunt:** Access permits are available to archery, youth deer, muzzleloader, October Antlerless, and Season Choice Area 21 permit holders.

**Legal Weapons:** All regulations relating to season dates and weapon types apply, except that archers may hunt with archery equipment during the November firearm season. Center-fire weapons are prohibited.

## NEW PROGRAMS WITH SPECIAL RULES

### MULE DEER CONSERVATION AREA (MDCA)

**Area included** – Buffalo, Frenchman, Platte, and Republican units (see page 33)

**Objective** – To increase the number and distribution of mule deer within these units and increase the age structure of mule deer bucks

**Background** – To increase hunter satisfaction and the number of older bucks, it is necessary to restrict mule deer buck harvest. To limit mule deer harvest and meet target objectives, Statewide Archery, Statewide Muzzleloader and Restricted Statewide Buck permits may not be used in the MDCA for mule deer.

**Rules** – Hunters wishing to harvest a mule deer buck in the MDCA must purchase a Buffalo, Frenchman, Platte, or Republican permit. There is limited quota of MDCA permits in each unit that are valid in the archery, muzzleloader and firearm seasons. Buffalo, Frenchman and Platte permits are valid for any deer. The Republican Mule Deer permit is valid for a mule deer buck. Frenchman and Platte permits include a bonus antlerless whitetail tag. Mule deer doe harvest is allowed on landowner permits, youth permits and some Season Choice permits (SCA 8 West, SCA 9 North, SCA 25 North). The following permits are valid only for the November firearm season: Buffalo Whitetail, Frenchman Whitetail, Platte Whitetail, and Republican Whitetail.

**Dates:** Sept. 15 - Dec. 31 (Buffalo; Frenchman; Platte; Republican mule deer units)

Nov. 13-21 (Buffalo WT, Frenchman WT, Platte WT, and Republican WT units)

### EARN-A-BUCK

**Area included** – Elkhorn and Wahoo units for November firearm permits

**Objective** – Increase antlerless whitetail harvest in Elkhorn and Wahoo units.

**Background** – Forty-nine percent of hunters surveyed indicated support for Earn-A-Buck. We will evaluate the use of Earn-A-Buck for use in other units in 2011.

**Rules** – Hunters with Wahoo or Elkhorn November firearm permits are required to check an antlerless deer on their permit before or while they check in a buck.

**Options for Hunters** – Hunters who wish to avoid the possibility of a violation have three options:

- harvest a doe first;
- get an archery, muzzleloader or antlerless permit instead of the either-sex Elkhorn or Wahoo permit;
- get a Statewide Whitetail Buck permit with a bonus antlerless whitetail tag.

**Dates:** Nov. 13-23

# DEER MANAGEMENT

## TROPHY DEER MANAGEMENT FOR LANDOWNERS

The basic guidelines on how to manage land:

- Deer need food, cover and protection from overharvest.
- Secure bedding areas are needed.
- Most areas have enough food, but if deer have to travel through open areas to get food they are more vulnerable.
- It is best if bedding and feeding areas are away from roads or have screening cover from roads.
- Deer need to be age 4 or older before they begin to show their full potential.

**The simplest rule for a trophy hunter is:**

- Do not shoot a buck unless it is bigger than the best buck you have harvested so far.
- Do not shoot a buck unless you are going to have it mounted.
- Harvest an antlerless deer instead of a little buck.

**For many landowners, the rule for their hunters should be:**

- Do not shoot a buck until you have harvested one or more does.

## ANTLERLESS DEER MANAGEMENT

The deer population is higher than desired in some areas. Season Choice Area (SCA) antlerless-only permits and bonus antlerless-only tags will be used to increase antlerless harvest. Doe harvest is the only method of reducing populations. Avoid buck fawns and consider taking a doe instead of a small buck.

### **Antlerless Deer Hunter-Landowner Program**

**This program is designed to:**

- help landowners find hunters who will shoot does
- help hunters find a place to hunt antlerless deer
- Hunters may sign up at [OutdoorNebraska.org](http://OutdoorNebraska.org) on the Hunting page under the Programs section to harvest antlerless deer. Landowners who need antlerless deer hunters may search the list by county and contact hunters by phone or e-mail.

### **Antlerless Harvest: Hunter and Landowner Considerations**

Some areas of the state have too many deer. Hunters and landowners should work together to manage our deer herds and achieve antlerless harvest goals. The rules to successfully manage a local deer herd are fairly simple:

- Landowners should determine if the number of deer is adequate, too high or too low.
- If too low, restrict antlerless harvest.
- Too high, increase antlerless harvest.
- Much too high: recruit hunters who will take multiple antlerless deer.
- If the problem is too many deer on neighboring property, talk to the neighbor.
- If you lease your property for hunting, specify the antlerless harvest quota.
- If your hunters won't take antlerless deer, find new hunters.
- Hunters should talk to the landowner and be willing to harvest antlerless deer.
- Visit the Deer Exchange Web site if you cannot eat all the deer you harvest.



PERMIT SELLOUT DATES

Information on current permit availability may be found at **OutdoorNebraska.org**.

PREFERENCE

Applicants who did not receive a deer permit in a draw unit in 2009 will be given preference in the 2010 permit drawing.

2010 Draw Units: Republican Mule Deer and DeSoto December Muzzleloader

HOW MANY DEER PERMITS MAY I HAVE?

Hunters may obtain no more than two permits each year that allow them to harvest a buck. There is no limit to the number of antlerless-only permits hunters may have.

DEER EXCHANGE

The Deer Exchange program allows hunters and nonhunters to sign up to exchange deer or deer meat. Interested persons or organizations may sign up to receive or donate deer or may search the site by county and call people who have already signed up and arrange a transfer of the deer.

- Deer must be legally harvested.
- A transfer tag must be filled out by the donating party.
- Hunters donating deer need to provide clean, high quality deer meat.
- Recipients of deer meat should inspect the deer before receiving it.
- Deer meat may not be sold.

During the first two years of the program more than 1,000 deer were exchanged. Typically we have more people who sign up to receive, so we need more hunters to participate. **Register at: [ngpc.state.ne.us/hunting/program/deerexchange](http://ngpc.state.ne.us/hunting/program/deerexchange)**

TRANSFER TAG

Any person transferring game meat to another person must provide a transfer tag. See example below.

**GAME & FISH CUSTODY TAG**  
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission  
Law Enforcement Division  
P.O. Box 10370, Lincoln, NE 68505-0370

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Owner Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Permit No. & Type \_\_\_\_\_

Seal No. \_\_\_\_\_  
(if on deer, antelope or elk)

I certify that I have this date placed the game and/or fish listed on the reverse side of this tag in the custody of another or have given it to the person named below. The game and/or fish was legally acquired by me.

Giver Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Recipient \_\_\_\_\_

Recipient Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

This tag must remain with the game or fish placed in cold storage or with such game or fish given to another person and must remain with the same until consumed.

**NOTICE**

*Game or fish taken in Nebraska must not be held in cold storage or home freezer longer than specified in season regulations. All game or fish taken within or outside the state and placed in cold storage must be tagged. Game or fish taken in other states and brought into Nebraska may legally be put in cold storage, if properly tagged and identified.*

SPECIES	NO./LBS.	DATE TAKEN

33-244/rev. 11-03

## 2009 DEER HARVEST INFORMATION

All seasons, including Archery, Muzzleloader, November Firearm, Youth, Landowner, and Season Choice.

2009 Adult Bucks Harvested			Percent of Bucks 2 Years or Older		Antlerless Harvest	
Unit	Mule Deer	Whitetail	Mule Deer	Whitetail	Mule Deer	Whitetail
Blue Northwest	1	2,712	NA	64%	—	3,271
Blue Southeast	7	3,412	NA	63%	—	3,535
Buffalo	701	2,280	77%	71%	131	1,778
Calamus East	103	983	NA	63%	6	402
Calamus West	557	966	79%	78%	119	437
Elkhorn	13	3,491	NA	53%	17	3,521
Frenchman	1,429	1,443	72%	70%	192	1,072
Keya Paha	411	1,688	79%	80%	35	599
Loup East	112	1,978	NA	59%	16	1,469
Loup West	724	932	76%	70%	182	512
Missouri	156	2,694	59	73%	16	1,725
Pine Ridge	922	1,053	83%	84%	377	903
Plains	862	439	78%	82%	456	233
Platte	903	1,141	67%	64%	127	981
Republican	106	3,205	NA	74%	34	2,829
Sandhills	1,274	1,003	90%	88%	538	429
Upper Platte	592	271	74%	64%	242	182
Wahoo	5	4,801	NA	61%	—	5,830
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,898</b>	<b>34,492</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>2,428</b>	<b>29,711</b>

NA = Data not available

### CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

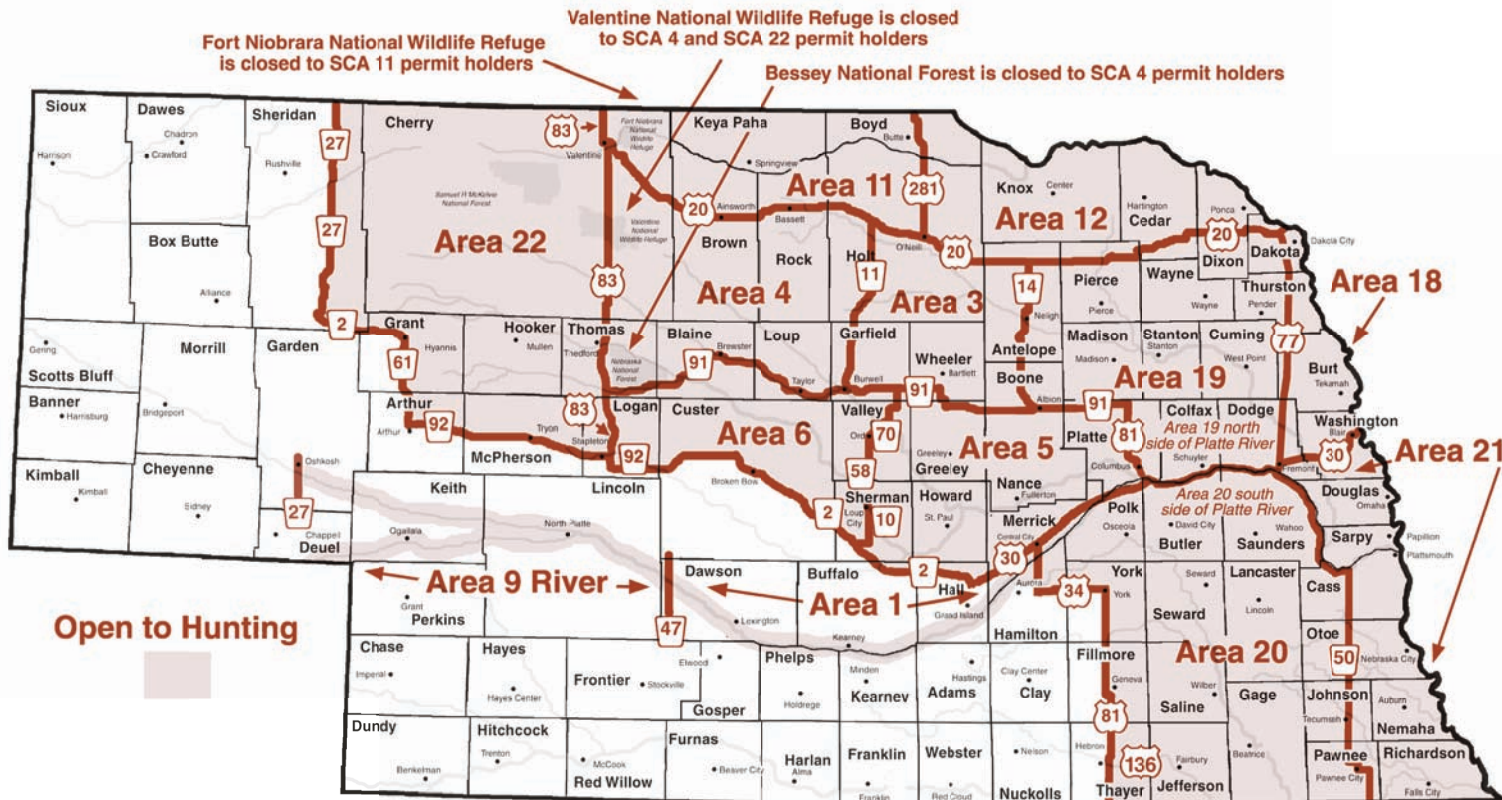
Hunters voluntarily submitted their deer for chronic wasting disease (CWD) testing in 2009. There were 2,983 samples collected, and 43 deer tested positive. A total of 199 positives have been found since testing began in 1997. One wild elk tested positive for CWD in 2009; the first positive since testing began in 1998. CWD is not known to infect antelope or bighorn sheep. This surveillance is conducted to provide hunters with information about the distribution and prevalence of the disease. Most of the positive deer came from the Panhandle. CWD appears to be a prion disease that attacks the central nervous system and causes fatal damage to the brain of white-tailed deer, mule deer and Rocky Mountain elk.

# PERCENTAGE OF BUCKS HARVESTED AGE 2½ OR OLDER

As Nebraska’s deer herd and hunting opportunities have increased, hunters have become more interested in harvesting older bucks. The age of bucks has increased over the years, as indicated in the charts below.

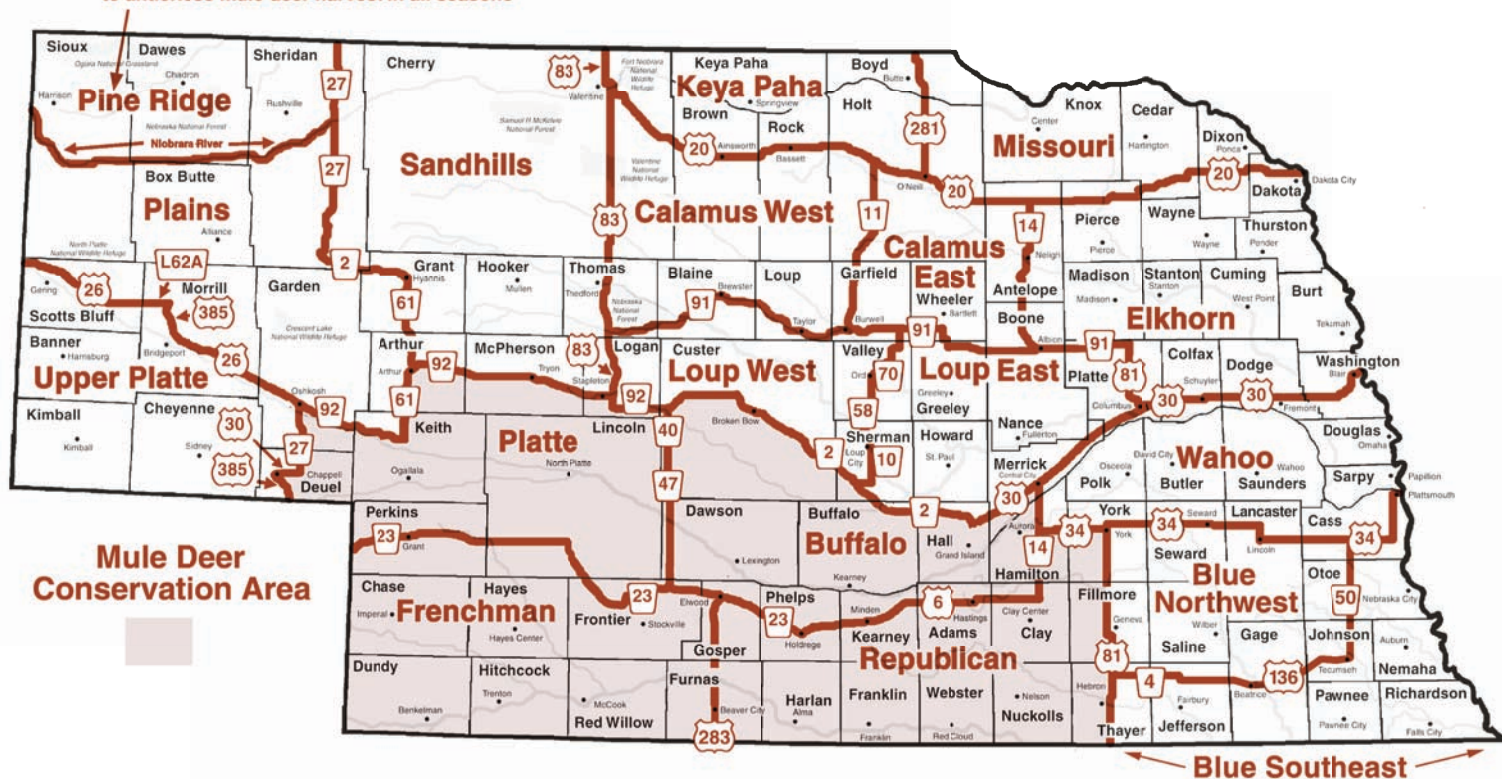
Whitetail Bucks					Mule Deer Bucks			
Unit	1987	1997	2007	2009	1987	1997	2007	2009
Blue SE	—	—	61%	63%	—	—	—	—
Blue/BlueNW	31%	46%	62%	64%	—	—	—	—
Buffalo	29%	42%	64%	71%	17%	29%	69%	77%
Calamus E.	16%	30%	49%	63%	—	—	60%	—
Calamus W.	32%	48%	69%	78%	23%	45%	67%	79%
Elkhorn	31%	29%	46%	53%	—	—	—	—
Frenchman	39%	55%	74%	70%	24%	42%	71%	72%
Keya Paha	38%	48%	71%	80%	30%	47%	74%	79%
Loup East	22%	30%	54%	59%	—	—	47%	—
Loup West	23%	42%	68%	70%	16%	44%	70%	76%
Missouri	22%	30%	60%	73%	—	—	56%	—
Pine Ridge	43%	56%	82%	84%	29%	50%	82%	83%
Plains	41%	58%	77%	82%	23%	52%	79%	78%
Platte	37%	52%	62%	64%	30%	39%	68%	67%
Republican	33%	36%	77%	74%	37%	36%	82%	—
Sandhills	42%	74%	82%	88%	37%	72%	88%	90%
Upper Platte	38%	54%	70%	64%	32%	51%	81%	74%
Wahoo	33%	35%	59%	71%	—	—	—	—
Average	32%	45%	64%	71%	27%	46%	76%	79%

## OCTOBER (ANTLERLESS ONLY) MANAGEMENT UNIT



## NOVEMBER FIREARM DEER MANAGEMENT UNITS

**Fort Robinson State Park and Fort Robinson Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Soldier Creek Wilderness Area and Peterson WMA are closed to antlerless mule deer harvest in all seasons**





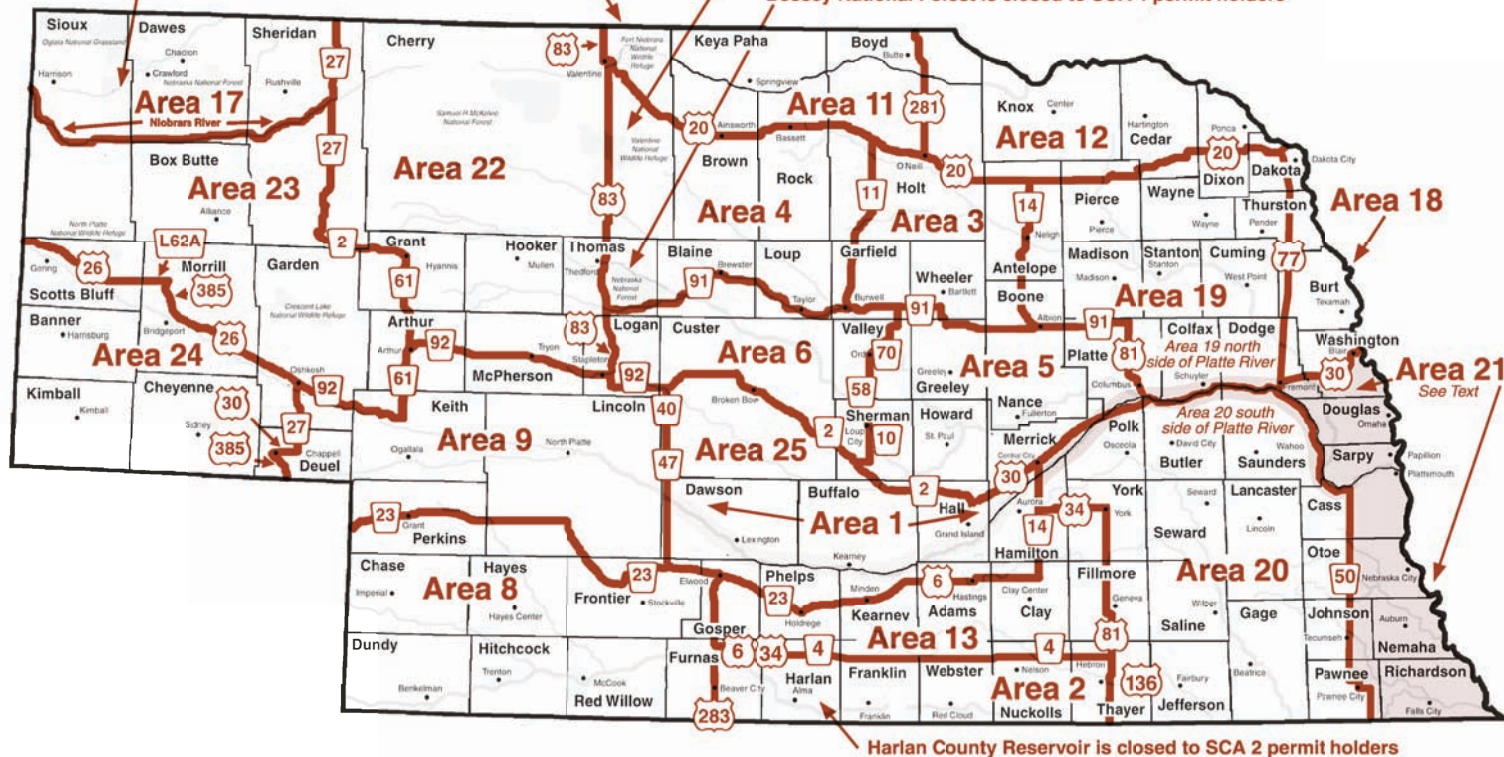
## SEASON CHOICE (ANTLERLESS ONLY) MANAGEMENT UNITS

**Fort Robinson State Park and Fort Robinson Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Soldier Creek Wilderness Area and Peterson WMA are closed to antlerless mule deer harvest in all seasons**

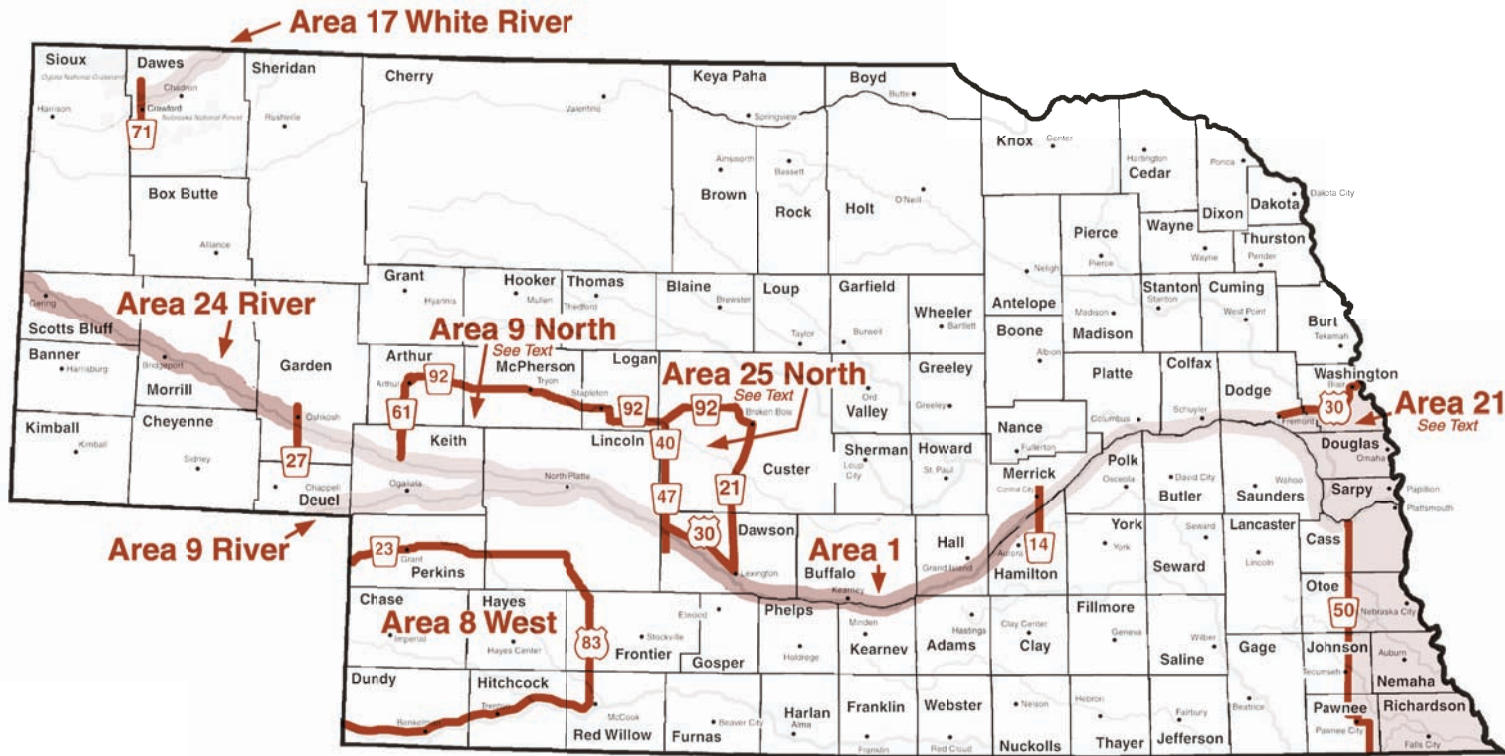
## Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge is closed to SCA 11 permit holders

**Valentine National Wildlife Refuge is closed to SCA 4 and SCA 22 permit holders**

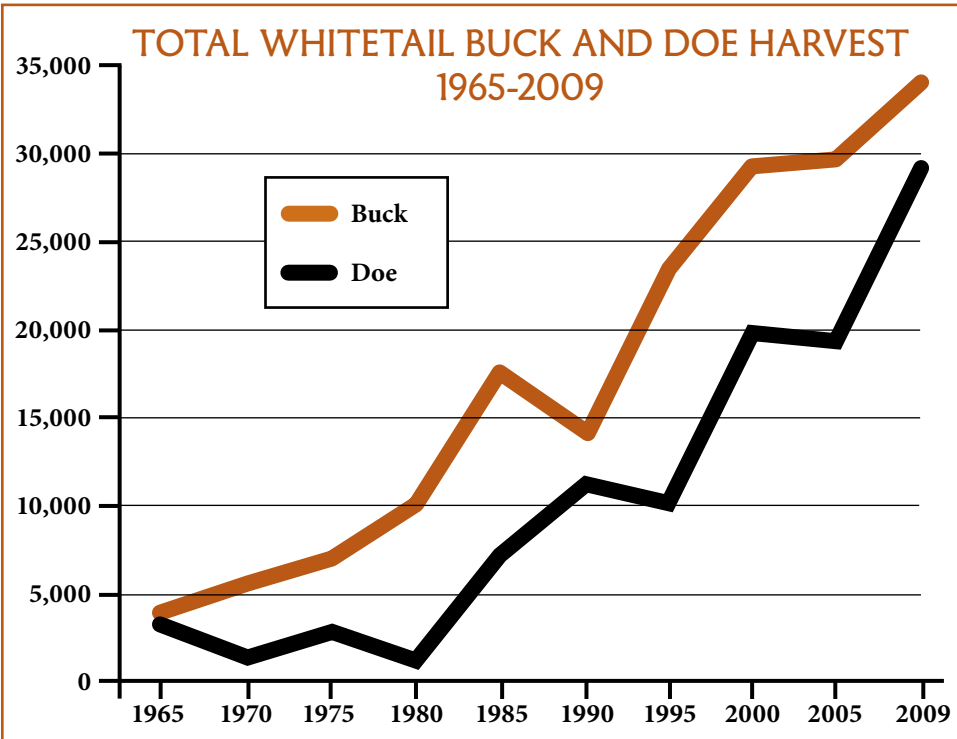
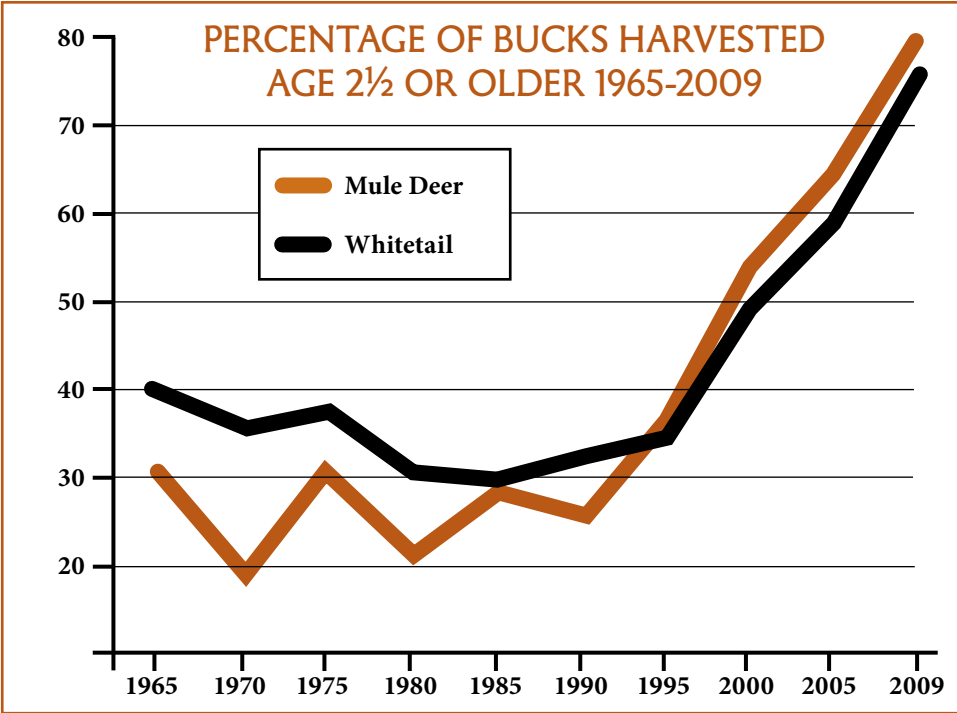
## Bessey National Forest is closed to SCA 4 permit holders



# SEASON CHOICE (ANTLERLESS ONLY) MANAGEMENT UNITS



**Red Willow SRA/ WMA  
is closed to SCA 8 West permit holders**





# BUCKS HARVESTED PER 100 SQ. MILES

## All Seasons in 2009

This table demonstrates density of whitetail and mule deer by showing the number of bucks harvested per 100 square miles in each county.

County	WT	MD	County	WT	MD	County	WT	MD
Adams	45	0	Frontier	26	36	Nance	102	1
Antelope	57	3	Furnas	71	12	Nemaha	69	0
Arthur	6	15	Gage	116	0	Nuckolls	73	1
Banner	1	22	Garden	11	15	Otoe	89	0
Blaine	21	21	Garfield	36	13	Pawnee	102	0
Boone	43	2	Gosper	35	11	Perkins	3	8
Box Butte	10	14	Grant	9	16	Phelps	27	1
Boyd	87	22	Greeley	46	7	Pierce	35	0
Brown	26	12	Hall	58	1	Platte	56	1
Buffalo	61	5	Hamilton	59	0	Polk	64	0
Burt	95	0	Harlan	118	5	Red Willow	39	22
Butler	115	0	Hayes	15	36	Richardson	95	0
Cass	169	1	Hitchcock	46	33	Rock	27	7
Cedar	61	1	Holt	52	4	Saline	112	0
Chase	11	19	Hooker	8	14	Sarpy	174	0
Cherry	16	15	Howard	95	4	Saunders	117	0
Cheyenne	3	7	Jefferson	108	0	Scotts Bluff	15	22
Clay	46	0	Johnson	101	0	Seward	96	0
Colfax	75	0	Kearney	22	0	Sheridan	13	16
Cuming	57	0	Keith	28	16	Sherman	50	9
Custer	30	37	Keya Paha	71	18	Sioux	11	19
Dakota	141	0	Kimball	1	7	Stanton	83	0
Dawes	45	29	Knox	114	6	Thayer	74	0
Dawson	46	17	Lancaster	126	0	Thomas	22	30
Deuel	4	5	Lincoln	31	21	Thurston	63	0
Dixon	89	0	Logan	15	25	Valley	54	12
Dodge	90	0	Loup	34	26	Washington	154	0
Douglas	93	0	Madison	51	0	Wayne	25	0
Dundy	9	18	McPherson	7	16	Webster	94	1
Fillmore	41	0	Merrick	79	1	Wheeler	33	5
Franklin	78	1	Morrill	12	21	York	52	0

## PERMITS, ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

- In Nebraska, species-specific permits are required to hunt big game – antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, or elk. (Bighorn sheep by lottery or auction only)
- A valid Nebraska Habitat Stamp is required to hunt all big game, except for hunters with landowner or fee-exempt permits and resident youths under age 16.
- Big game hunters are not required to have a Nebraska hunt permit in addition to the big game permit.
- A big game permit is valid only for the season, weapon and unit or area for which it is issued and may not be exchanged for another permit.
- Permits are not transferable or refundable.

### RESIDENCY QUALIFICATIONS

The requirements to qualify as a Nebraska resident to buy a hunting license:

- Reside in Nebraska continuously for 30 days or more before making application for a permit and intend to become a resident of Nebraska.
- Residents attending school in another state or stationed outside the state of Nebraska as part of a military assignment, that have maintained Nebraska as their state of legal residency.
- Military personnel and full-time students stationed or attending school in Nebraska for a period of at least 30 days.

**NOTE:** A new resident should be prepared to provide documentation of residency (driver's license, voter registration, etc.) to an officer when in possession of a resident permit.

### NONRESIDENT PERMITS

Nonresidents, regardless of age, must have a valid species-specific permit to hunt big game and a current habitat stamp.

### LANDOWNER PERMITS

#### **Residents and nonresidents:**

- A habitat stamp is not required.
- Eligible family members may hunt together on the described land.
- Eligible family members are not required to live in the same household.

#### **Residents:**

- Owning or leasing 80 acres or more of land dedicated to agricultural production may receive a limited landowner permit for antelope and deer.
- Permits cost one-half the resident antelope and deer permit price.
- Hunting activities are restricted to the land owned/operated by the holder and described on the application.
- Spouse or child of owner or leaseholder, or siblings sharing ownership are eligible.
- The maximum number of landowner permits allowed for one farm or ranch is determined by the size of the property in acres divided by 80. For example, a farm of 240 acres could have a maximum of three landowner permits issued, but each person may hold no more than one permit per species per year.

**Nonresidents:**

- Owning 320 acres or more of land dedicated to agricultural production may receive a limited landowner permit for deer.
- Permits cost one-half the nonresident deer permit price.
- Only one permit will be issued per 320 acres.
- Spouse or child of owner, or siblings sharing ownership is eligible.

**NEBRASKA HABITAT STAMP**

- A current stamp is required for all resident big game hunters 16 years of age and older, some exceptions apply.
- A current stamp is required for all nonresidents regardless of age.
- Farmers and ranchers who hunt with a landowner permit on land they own or lease for agricultural purposes are exempt from the stamp requirement.
- Only one stamp is necessary for all hunting in any calendar year. (Season Choice permit holders who hunt in January may use the previous year's stamp.)
- If a stamp is issued electronically, it will reprint on all subsequent permits issued electronically in that calendar year.

**DRAW AND BUY UNITS**

Nebraska issues some big game permits as draw units or buy units. All antelope firearm and muzzleloader permits are draw units. The Republican Mule Deer and DeSoto December Muzzleloader deer permits are draw units. All elk units are draw units.

**Draw Units are:**

- Determined by the overall demand on the unit's permits.
- Established to provide equal opportunity to obtain permits in the units.
- May be applied for during the draw unit application period.

**Buy Units are:**

- Units that typically don't sell out quickly or have an unlimited number of permits available such as statewide archery deer.
- Issued on a first-come, first-served basis.
- May be purchased online during applicable periods or at Commission permitting offices.

**BUDDY APPLICATION**

Hunters who want to ensure that both or neither of their party will draw a permit in the same unit should apply as "Buddies." If one person fails to draw a permit, both will be excluded.

- Must be submitted during the first application period for draw units. (Later applications are treated on a first-come, first-served basis.)
- Only two persons may submit applications together as buddy applicants. If applying by mail, both applications must be submitted in the same envelope.
- One check is allowed for payment. If paying by credit card, buddies must use same credit card.
- Preference will be based on the individual with the fewest preference points.
- A buddy permit does not allow party hunting. Each permit holder must harvest his or her own animal.

NOTIFICATION OF SUCCESS

- All applicants for permits in draw units will be notified of the results of the drawing.
- Check your success at **OutdoorNebraska.org** after the draw (approximately May 13).
  - Persons are notified before June 14 to give all applicants who do not receive their permit of choice time to obtain a permit in an unfilled unit.
  - Do not call Commission offices to inquire about your success.

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

AGE REQUIREMENTS

Those under the minimum age may apply for a permit only if they will reach the minimum age by the date the season opens. Those under age 16 must be accompanied by a person 19 years of age or older who has a valid Nebraska hunting permit.

		Age 10-11							Age 12-15							Age 16 and Up										
		May Legally Take	Permit Type	Habitat Stamp	Neb. Waterfowl Stamp	Federal Duck Stamp	HIP Number	Hunter Education	<sup>4,5</sup> Accompaniment	May Legally Take	Permit Type	Habitat Stamp	Neb. Waterfowl Stamp	Federal Duck Stamp	HIP Number	<sup>1,2,3</sup> Hunter Education	<sup>5,6</sup> Accompaniment	May Legally Take	Permit Type	Habitat Stamp	Neb. Waterfowl Stamp	Federal Duck Stamp	HIP Number	<sup>1,2,3</sup> Hunter Education	<sup>6</sup> Accompaniment	
Deer	R	•	D						•	•	D					•	•	•	D	•					•	•
Deer	N	•	D	•					•	•	D	•				•	•	•	D	•					•	•
Antelope	R									•	A					•	•	•	A	•					•	•
Antelope	N									•	A	•				•	•	•	A	•					•	•
Elk	R									•	E					•	•	•	E	•					•	•
Elk	N																									
Bighorn Sheep	R									•	S					•	•	•	S	•					•	•
Bighorn Sheep	N									•	S	•				•	•	•	S	•					•	•

PERMITS: D – Deer, E – Elk, A – Antelope, S – Bighorn Sheep, R – Resident, N – Nonresident, • Required.

Hunter Education

- <sup>1</sup> Hunters ages 12 through 29 must have on their person proof of successful completion of firearm hunter education while hunting with a firearm or crossbow.
- <sup>2</sup> Hunters ages 12 through 29 must have on their person proof of successful completion of bow hunter education while hunting deer, antelope, elk, or mountain (bighorn) sheep with bow and arrow.
- <sup>3</sup> Hunters ages 12 through 29 who have not completed firearm and/or bow hunter education may obtain an Apprentice Hunter Education Exemption Certificate.

Accompaniment

- <sup>4</sup> Firearm hunters ages 11 or younger must be accompanied by a licensed person age 19 or older.
- <sup>5</sup> Any deer, elk, antelope, or bighorn sheep hunters ages 15 or younger must be accompanied by a licensed person age 19 and older.
- <sup>6</sup> Hunters holding an Apprentice Hunter Education Exemption Certificate must be accompanied by a licensed person age 19 or older. The accompanying person, if age 19-29, must be certified in hunter education.

Definitions

**Accompanied** – In the presence of a licensed hunter age 19 or older. The accompanying hunter may not accompany more than two hunters at a time using the Apprentice Hunter Education Exemption Certificate. The accompanying adult hunter must at all times be in unaided visual and verbal communication with the novice hunter.

**Licensed** – Has a valid Nebraska hunting permit.

## HUNTER EDUCATION

Required for all hunters ages 12 through 29:

- Hunting with either a firearm or crossbow must have on their person proof of successful completion of firearm hunter education.
- Hunting big game with bow and arrow must carry proof of successful completion of bow hunter education.
- Who have not completed a firearm hunter and/or bow hunter education course may obtain an Apprentice Hunter Education Exemption Certificate from the Commission.

**NOTE:** Hunter education is not required for hunters under 12 or over 29.

## HUNTER EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

Apprentice Hunter Education Exemption Certificate provides the novice hunter age 12 and older an opportunity to try hunting and receive training from an experienced hunter before completing hunter education. A hunter using this certificate must be accompanied\* at all times while hunting. This certificate may be obtained once in each person's lifetime, expires on Dec. 31 and may be renewed once. The fee is \$5.

\*Accompanied is defined as: in the presence of a licensed "experienced" hunter age 19 or older. The accompanying person, if ages 19 to 29, must be certified in hunter education. There may be no more than two hunters using the certificate accompanied by the "experienced" hunter at any time, and the "experienced" hunter must at all times be in unaided visual and verbal communication with the child under age 12 and/or the "apprentice" hunter ages 12 through 29.

Contact any Commission office or [OutdoorNebraska.org](http://OutdoorNebraska.org) for Hunter Education class information.

## LEGAL WEAPONS

### Deer and Antelope Firearm Permits:

- Rifles,\*\* 22 caliber or larger that deliver at least 900 foot-pounds of energy at 100 yards.
- Handguns\*\* or muzzleloading handguns that deliver at least 400 foot-pounds of energy at 50 yards.
- Muzzleloading rifles 44 caliber or larger.
- Muzzleloading muskets 62 caliber or larger, firing a single slug.
- Shotguns\*\* of 20 gauge or larger that fire a single slug.
- Crossbows that have a draw weight of 125 pounds or more.
- Archery equipment is allowed on firearm deer permits.

\*\* Semi-automatic firearms capable of holding more than six cartridges are not allowed.

### Deer and Antelope Muzzleloader Permits:

- Muzzleloading weapons (rifles, muskets and handguns) as defined for firearm permits.
- Magnifying and variable-power scopes are allowed on muzzleloaders.

### Deer and Antelope Archery Permits:

- Longbows or compound bows
- Arrows must be released by hand or handheld release. Devices that maintain the bow at full draw or in firing position are prohibited. Crossbows and draw locking devices are permitted only for those who are incapable of drawing a longbow due to a permanent physical impairment.

### Elk and Bighorn Sheep Permits:

- Rifles, 26 caliber or larger that deliver at least 2,000 foot-pounds of energy at 100 yards.

- Muzzleloading rifles, 45 caliber or larger.
  - Longbows or compound bows
- \*\* Semi-automatic firearms capable of holding more than six cartridges are not allowed.

## FIREARM RESTRICTIONS

### During the November firearm deer season:

- Only hunters with a valid unfilled deer permit may hunt wildlife other than deer with centerfire rifles or centerfire handguns, provided they are hunting in the deer management unit for which their deer permit is valid.

## CROSSBOW HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

The recent expansion of antlerless firearm deer seasons allows crossbow hunting for antlerless deer for 43 days of the October, November, December and January antlerless seasons. Persons wishing to hunt with a crossbow during the archery season and who have a permanent physical infirmity that makes them incapable of drawing a long or compound bow may apply for a crossbow permit.

### Crossbow Permit Application

Persons described above may apply for a crossbow permit. The application form is available from the Game and Parks by contacting Sandra Paice at (402) 471-5432 or [Sandra.paice@nebraska.gov](mailto:Sandra.paice@nebraska.gov). A physician must verify and describe the infirmity on the form. The permit is free, good for life and takes 1-2 weeks to process.

## DISABLED PERSONS PERMIT PROVISION

Nebraska law allows hunters with certified disabilities to obtain a permit to hunt big game. Such permits must be either-sex permits. This provision does not apply to units with bag restrictions that are 100 percent buck-only or 100 percent antlerless-only. Special application forms may be obtained at one of the Commission's permitting offices and signed by the applicant's physician. Obtain a big game permit first, then call or write the Commission for a disabled application.

## A Great Gift for Yourself or Someone Special

Treat yourself or someone you love to a gift that lasts a lifetime...a Nebraska Lifetime Permit. Available to both Nebraska residents and nonresidents alike, a lifetime permit is an investment in the future and the ultimate gift for any hunter or angler.



Buy online at [www.OutdoorNebraska.org](http://www.OutdoorNebraska.org)  
or call 1-800-742-0056



## CHECK STATIONS

Big game hunters are required to check in animals by specific dates and before leaving the state. A list of check stations may be found on the regulations sheet and at **OutdoorNebraska.org**.

## TELECHECK

This allows hunters to check deer or antelope by telephone or Internet, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. **All deer harvested outside the November firearm season MUST be checked via Telecheck as manual check stations will only be available for the November firearm season.** Antelope archers and muzzleloaders also may use Telecheck. To use Telecheck, call **(800) 405-7700** or visit **NEdeercheck.com**.

Instructions for completing Telecheck:

1. Write the seal number and security code on the permit after completing TELECHECK.
2. Required information from your permit or animal:

Species: Whitetail                      Mule deer                      Pronghorn

Unit Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Permit number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Kill: (mm/dd/yyyy) Example: 09/15/2010 \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

County of Kill: Name \_\_\_\_\_ or license plate 2 digit code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telecheck by phone is easiest if you know the two digit license plate county code. (01=Douglas, 02=Lancaster, 03=Gage, 59=Sarpy, 70=Dakota, etc.)

Sex of animal: Male or Female                      Age of animal: Adult or Fawn

The following information may be requested:

Deer: How many antler points are 1 inch or greater: \_\_\_\_\_

Pronghorn: Measure horn from the base around the outside curve to the horn tip.

Is the longest horn less than or greater than 9.5 inches? \_\_\_\_\_

## SHOOTING HOURS

It is legal to hunt big game 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes following sunset.

## QUARTERING GAME

Big game animals may be quartered and skinned before delivery to a check station. Head, hide and carcass must be taken to the check station. Evidence of sex must remain attached to a hindquarter

## HUNTER ORANGE

State law requires hunters to wear and visibly display at least 400 square inches of hunter orange on their head, back and chest at all times when hunting big game with a firearm or muzzleloader during firearm or muzzleloader seasons. Camouflage hunter orange patterns are legal. Archers are exempt from this requirement during muzzleloader seasons. Hunter orange is not required of archers during the October Antlerless deer season.

## TURKEY HUNTING

Turkey hunting is legal during the November firearm deer season. **People hunting with a fall turkey permit are required to wear hunter orange when hunting during the November firearm deer season.** Legal weapons include shotgun and archery only; rifles are not allowed; and crossbows are allowed by special permit.

## RECOVERING DEER

The use of tracking dogs is legal for the recovery of deer.

## REFUGES

Most national wildlife refuges managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and national forests and grasslands managed by the U.S. Forest Service are open to hunting, unless otherwise posted. Check with those agencies for special regulations.

## WHERE TO HUNT

**Open Fields and Waters:** This program opens tens of thousands of acres of private land to public walk-in hunting access. For locations of participating tracts of land, read the 2009 Public Access Atlas, available at **OutdoorNebraska.org**, Commission offices and permit vendors.

**CRP-MAP:** The Conservation Reserve Program-Management Access Program (CRP-MAP) opens more than 156,000 acres of private land enrolled in CRP to walk-in hunting. For locations of participating tracts of land, read the 2009 Public Access Atlas, available at **OutdoorNebraska.org**, Commission offices and permit vendors.

**Public Lands:** The Nebraska Guide to Hunting and Public Lands lists 300 publicly owned areas that cover more than 800,000 acres. Refer to that guide for area-specific regulations. Unless otherwise posted, big game hunting is allowed on all wildlife management areas (WMA). Hunting is allowed on most state recreation areas (SRA) beginning the Tuesday following Labor Day.

### Some areas have specific restrictions:

- State parks (SP), wayside areas, hatcheries, reserves, and state refuges are closed to hunting unless otherwise posted. Indian Cave, Niobrara and Ponca SPs are open to archery deer hunting during the last half of the season. A free permit is required. Contact the park superintendent.
- Portable tree stands and steps may be used on WMAs but may not be installed, used or left in place from Feb. 1 through Aug. 31. They may be used on SRAs open to hunting, but must be removed at the end of each day. It is unlawful to build or use any permanent tree stand or steps that attach to any tree with nails, screws, bolts, or wire. Screw-in steps may be used on WMAs, but may not be used on SRAs.
- On state-owned lands, all motorized vehicles are restricted to roadways and parking areas. No ATVs are permitted.
- Target shooting is permitted on most WMAs but prohibited on certain posted areas.

**Private Lands:** It is the responsibility of every hunter to get permission to hunt, trail game or retrieve downed game on private land, whether posted or not (including railroad right-of-ways). Hunting without permission may result in a fine of up to \$500, three months in jail and the loss of hunting privileges for up to three years.

## UNLAWFUL ACTS

**Shooting from the Road** – It is illegal to shoot from a bridge or public road, including the travelled surface and right of way.



**Hunting Over Bait** – It is illegal to take or attempt to take big game within 200 yards of an area that has been baited. A baited area includes feed, supplement or bait that has been placed within the last 60 days. Baiting does not include instances where the feed, supplement or bait has been placed in the active operation of husbandry for domesticated livestock.

**Guiding for Fee** – It is illegal to provide guide service for a fee on wildlife management areas (WMA).

**Weapon Sights** – It is illegal to use any electrical device to amplify natural light or to project a light beam or image to a target, including night-vision or infrared scopes and laser sights. Red-dot and illuminated reticle sights and scopes are permitted. Magnifying and variable-power scopes are allowed on muzzleloaders.

### **Hunting Near Dwellings**

**200-Yard Rule:** It is unlawful to hunt any form of wild mammal or wild bird with a rifle within a 200-yard radius of an inhabited dwelling or livestock feedlot, unless permission to do so has been granted by the owner or tenant of that dwelling or feedlot.

**100-Yard Rule:** It is unlawful to hunt any form of wild mammal or wild bird with archery equipment, handgun or shotgun within a 100-yard radius of an inhabited dwelling or livestock feedlot, unless permission to do so has been granted by the owner or tenant of that dwelling or feedlot.

### **LIQUIDATED DAMAGES**

The following are penalties for illegally killing big game in Nebraska.

Bighorn Sheep — **\$15,000**

Elk – bull, 12 points or more — **\$5,000**

Other elk — **\$1,500**

White-tailed Deer

- 8 points or more with 18-inch spread — **\$5,000**
- Other antlered bucks — **\$1,500**
- Antlerless — **\$250**

Mule Deer

- 8 points or more with 24-inch spread — **\$5,000**
- Other mule deer — **\$1,500**

Antelope

- Buck with 14-inch horn length — **\$5,000**
- Other antelope — **\$1,500**

Bear or Moose — **\$1,500**

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q:** How are season-opening dates determined?

**A:** The Board of Commissioners sets opening dates, typically they are as follows:

- Antelope - Rifle: Second Saturday in October (16 days); Muzzleloader: Third Saturday in September (16 days); Archery: Aug. 20-Dec. 31 (Closed during deer and antelope rifle seasons).
- Bighorn Sheep – No permits authorized for 2010.

- Deer - Rifle: Saturday closest to Nov. 13; Muzzleloader: Dec. 1-31; Archery: Sept. 15-Dec. 31
- Elk - Boyd Season: Aug. 15-Dec. 31 (excluding the November firearm deer season). Bull and Cow: Thirty days beginning the last Saturday in September. Late Cow: Dec. 1-21.
- Fall Turkey: Sept. 15-Dec. 31.

**Q:** A friend or relative got sick and cannot hunt deer; may someone else fill their permit?

**A:** No. Permits are not transferable and party hunting is illegal.

**Q:** When archery deer hunting, may I carry a firearm for hunting other species?

**A:** No. It is unlawful to possess any firearm while hunting under the authority of an archery deer permit.

**Q:** May I use a scope on my bow for deer hunting?

**A:** Yes. Legal scopes are allowed.

**Q:** If I shoot a deer and it runs onto property that I do not have permission to hunt, may I legally retrieve the deer?

**A:** No. You must have permission before entering another person’s property.

**Q:** I recently had shoulder surgery; may I get a crossbow permit since I cannot shoot my compound bow?

**A:** No. The disability permit that allows the use of a crossbow only applies to a permanent disability.

## CONSERVATION OFFICERS

### HEADQUARTERS

Officer	City	Phone
Ted Blume (Adm.)	Lincoln	(402) 471-5531
Craig Stover (Asst. Adm.)	Lincoln	(402) 471-5532
Wes Loos (Asst. Adm.)	Lincoln	(402) 471-5591
Rod Loos (Asst. Adm.)	Ogallala	(308) 284-8056
Murray Johnson	Lincoln	(402) 471-5003

### PANHANDLE

Jim Zimmerman	Gering	H (308) 436-7561
(District I Supervisor)		W (308) 763-2940
Scott Brandt	Gering	(308) 631-0663
Heath Packett	Gordon	(308) 360-0682
Dennis Thompson	Ogallala	(308) 289-0755
Dan Zuehlke	Ogallala	(308) 289-3399
Doug Pollard	Oshkosh	(308) 778-7101
Frank Miller	Valentine	(402) 389-0444
Dan Kling	Harrison	(308) 430-0572

## NORTHEAST

Tom Zimmer. ....	Norfolk	H (402) 371-6625
(District III Supervisor)		W (402) 370-3374
Dale Davis. ....	Bassett.	(402) 760-0712
Steve Oberg. ....	Columbus	(402) 910-3366
Daniel Roberts. ....	Fremont	(402) 719-1108
Jon Reeves. ....	Kennard	(402) 889-8508
Marion Shafer. ....	Norfolk	(402) 992-7590
Pat George. ....	O'Neill.	(402) 340-0787
Tim Williams. ....	Neligh.	(402) 929-0051
Cory Krause	West Point	(402) 380-6410

## SOUTHWEST

Roger Thompson	North Platte	H (308) 532-9175
(District IV Supervisor)		W (308) 535-8025
Ray Dierking. ....	Brkn. Bow	(308) 870-0322
George Sund. ....	Cambridge	(308) 655-0028
Michael Thome	Cozad	(308) 529-8146
Matt Andrews. ....	Elwood.	(308) 746-2418
Dirk Greene	Imperial	(308) 882-0015
Virgil Gosch	McCook	(308) 340-2440
Dudley Sorensen	N. Platte	(308) 530-0016
Rich Routh	Rep. City	(308) 920-0367

## SOUTH-CENTRAL

Officer	City	Phone
Jerry Pecha	Kearney	H (308) 234-4411
(District VI Supervisor)		W (308) 865-5327
Jeff Jones	Clay Center.	(402) 762-5022
Terry Brentzel	Doniphan	(402) 469-5795
Randy Pomplun	Fullerton	(308) 550-0489
Darin Gress.	Hebron	(402) 768-8665
Dale Johnson	Kearney	(308) 440-3847
Robert Finke.	Milford	(402) 947-1363

## SOUTHEAST

Duane Arp	Gretna.	H (402) 332-4954
(District V Supervisor)		W (402) 332-2965
Sean McKeehan	Ashland	(402) 521-0159
William Krause	Auburn	(402) 274-8063
Mike Luben.	Colon	(402) 443-6392
Douglas Kramer.	Lincoln.	(402) 890-6465
Dina Barta.	Lincoln.	(402) 890-6463
Stacey Lewton.	Lincoln.	(402) 890-7140
Levi Krause.	Louisville.	(402) 949-0593
Russell Mort	Nebr. City	(402) 209-1506
Dan Evasco	Papillion.	(402) 616-5961
Jeff Clauson.	Waterloo	(402) 658-7057

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